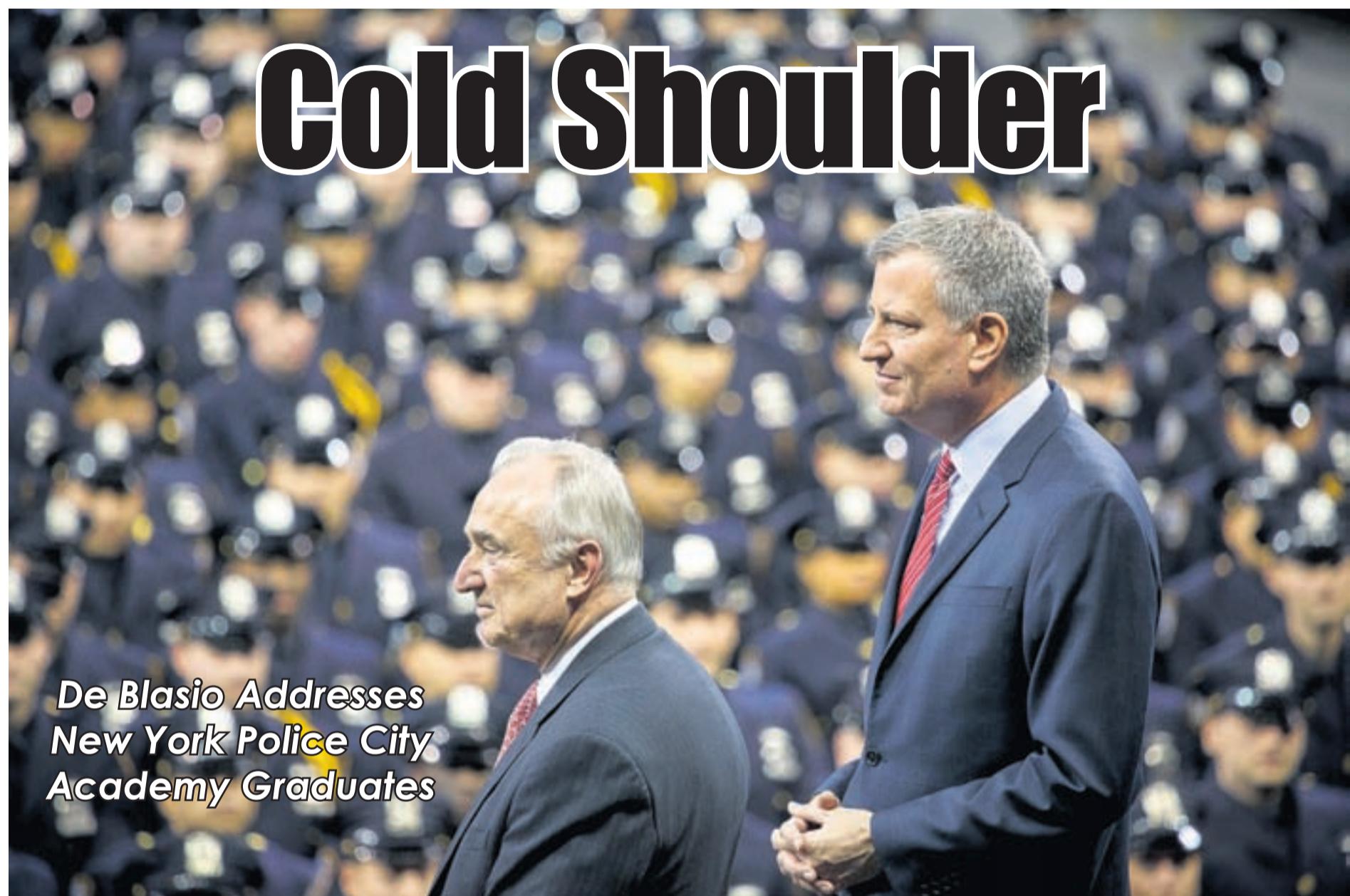


On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Tuesday, December 30, 2014

Cold Shoulder



**De Blasio Addresses
New York Police City
Academy Graduates**

New York Mayor Bill de Blasio and Police Commissioner William Bratton during a New York City Police Academy graduation ceremony at Madison Square Garden in New York, Dec. 29, 2014. Two days after police officers turned their backs on de Blasio while he spoke at a murdered officer's funeral, a scattering of boos and jeers greeted the mayor on Monday as he addressed the ceremony for the fall class of 884 cadets.

(Richard Perry/The New York Times)
Page 4

Shiva's
GOLD & GEMS

L.G. Smith Blvd. #94
Royal Plaza Mall, Oranjestad, Aruba
Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791
E-mail: shivasaruba@setarnet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com

(2 locations) L.G. Smith Blvd. #95
Palm Beach Plaza Mall, Palm Beach, Aruba
Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791
E-mail: shivasaruba@setarnet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com

Shiva's
GOLD & GEMS

With every purchase of US \$500.00 or more
receive a FREE pair
of diamond stud earrings.





HARRY WINSTON

HARRY WINSTON MIDNIGHT MOON PHASE AUTOMATIC 42MM



Harry Winston

Shiva's
GOLD & GEMS

L.G. Smith Blvd. #95, Palm Beach Plaza Mall, Palm Beach, Aruba, Tel: (297) 586-2526

L.G. Smith Blvd #94, Royal Plaza Mall, Oranjestad, Aruba, Tel: (297) 583-4077

Email: shivasaruba@setarnet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com

HARRYWINSTON.COM



KUKOO KUNUKU

Explore Aruba by night!

Dinner & Nightlife Tour

Monday to Saturday
6.00 PM - 12.00 AM
- Champagne toast
- Dinner under the Stars
- Three Bar stops

USS 65 PER PERSON

Pub Krawl

Monday to Saturday
8.30 PM - 12.30 AM
- Four bar stops with drinks at special prices
- Free welcome shot at every stop

USS 45 PER PERSON

CALL US DIRECT AND SAVE **US\$ 5**

PLEASE MENTION CODE: AT01

**CALL US NOW
586-2010**

Search area expanded in hunt for AirAsia plane

TRISNADI MARJAN

MARGIE MASON

Associated Press

SURABAYA, Indonesia (AP)

— More planes will be in the air and more ships on the sea Tuesday hunting for AirAsia Flight 8501 in a widening search off Indonesia that has dragged into a third day without any solid leads.

At least 30 ships, 15 aircraft and seven helicopters were looking for the jet carrying 162 people, said Indonesia's Search and Rescue Agency chief Henry Bambang Soelistyo. Most of the craft were Indonesian but Singapore, Malaysia and Australia contributed to the effort. Aircraft from Thailand planned to join Tuesday's search.

He said the search area would be expanded to land areas, with four military helicopters dispatched just after sunrise near Pangkalan Bun on the western part of Borneo island and to smaller islands of Bangka and Belitung.

"Until now, we have not yet found any signal or indication of the plane's whereabouts," Soelistyo told The

Associated Press, adding fishermen from Belitung island were also helping.

The U.S. Navy is also joining the search. It said in

will arrive in the area later Tuesday.

The longer the search goes without turning up any wreckage or hint of

Flight 370 in March.

The AirAsia pilots had been worried about the weather and had sought permission to climb above threaten-

space, forcing Flight 8501 to remain at a lower altitude.

Minutes later, the jet was gone from the radar without issuing a distress signal. The plane is believed to have crashed into Indonesia's Java Sea, but broad aerial surveys so far have turned up no firm evidence of the missing Airbus A320-200. On Monday, searchers spotted two oily patches and floating objects in separate locations, but it was not known any of it was related to the plane that vanished Sunday half-way into what should have been a two-hour hop from Surabaya, Indonesia, to Singapore. The area is a busy shipping lane. Officials saw little reason to believe the flight met anything but a grim fate.

Based on the plane's last known coordinates, the aircraft probably crashed into the water and "is at the bottom of the sea," Indonesia search-and-rescue chief Henry Bambang Soelistyo said. Still, searchers planned to expand their efforts onto land on Tuesday. □



Crew of Indonesian Air Force C-130 airplane of the 31st Air Squadron scan the horizon during a search operation for the missing AirAsia flight 8501 jetliner over the waters of Karimata Strait in Indonesia, Monday, Dec. 29, 2014. Search planes and ships from several countries on Monday were scouring Indonesian waters over which the AirAsia jet disappeared, more than a day into the region's latest aviation mystery. Flight 8501 vanished Sunday in airspace thick with storm clouds on its way from Surabaya, Indonesia, to Singapore.

(AP Photo/Dita Alangkara)

a statement that the USS Sampson, a destroyer, which was already on an independent deployment in the Western Pacific, and

what happened to plane, the more the incident will evoke memories of the still-unexplained disappearance of Malaysia Airlines

ing clouds. Air traffic control couldn't say yes immediately — there was no room. Six other airliners were crowding the air-

De Palm Island

You Won't Want To Leave

Aruba's premiere all-inclusive attraction great for families & couples

Include: All you can eat buffet • Open bar • Snorkeling • Water park • Banana boat rides • Beach chairs • Salsa lessons and more



**Tickets: hotel concierge desk, De Palm Island (Balashi), De Palm Tours Sales Office (L.G. Smith Blvd. 142).
depalmtours.com | +(297) 522-4500. Directions: 2 miles south past the airport and follow signs.**



**VECCHIA
ESTATES NV**

Boegaeroei 85-D, Noord, Aruba
Aruba Tel. 011 - (297) 594-0262
USA Tel. 1- (305) 407-9511
info@vecchiaestates.com
www.vecchiaestates.com



Joally di Vecchia
M. (297) 592-5957
info@vecsta.com



Luxury • Location • Lifestyle

Enjoy the ultimate in island living with a guaranteed return on your investment!

Vecchia Estates offers custom-built homes in one of Aruba's most exclusive areas.

Close to beaches, activities and nightlife, it is an attractive investment that will pay for itself as a rental vacation villa.

We provide full service from concept, design and construction of your dream home to property maintenance and rental clients via our in-house agency (www.arubaluxuryrental.com)

Don't just own! Invest wisely and profit with a respected company!

De Blasio Addresses New York Police Academy Graduates

ANDY NEWMAN

J. DAVID GOODMAN

© 2014 New York Times

NEW YORK - Two days after scores of police officers turned their backs on Mayor Bill de Blasio as he spoke at a murdered officer's funeral, a scattering of boos and jeers greeted the mayor Monday as he addressed another Police Department event: the graduation ceremony for the fall class of 884 new officers.

And once again, de Blasio found himself speaking to turned backs: A half-dozen or so audience members at Madison Square Garden - out of thousands - faced away from him as he spoke, just as officers did outside Officer Rafael Ramos' funeral Saturday, and at the Brooklyn hospital where the officer died the week before. Several of those who turned away appeared to be wearing uniforms.

As the mayor forged on with his speech, thanking the recruits for making the "heroic choice" to become police officers, the crowd settled into silence. "It takes a special kind of person to put their lives on the line for others," de Blasio said. "To stare down the danger, because that is what you will do."

But when he told the academy class that on the job, they would "confront problems that you didn't create," a heckler yelled



New recruits bow their heads in honor of deceased officers Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu during a New York Police Academy graduation ceremony, Monday Dec. 29, 2014, at Madison Square Garden in New York. Nearly 1000 officers were sworn in as tensions between city hall and the NYPD continued following the Dec. 20 shooting deaths of officers Ramos and Liu.

(AP Photo/John Minchillo)

out "You did!" and drew applause.

De Blasio hammered one message over and over to the recruits, who wore badges ribboned in black in memory of two recently slain comrades: that everything would be done to keep them and the police force they join safe from harm.

"It's our job to protect you," he said.

The mayor finished his speech to tepid applause and no audible boos.

Some of the department has been in open revolt against the mayor over his comments and actions since a grand jury declined on Dec. 3 to charge the officer whose chokehold killed an unarmed black man, Eric Garner.

De Blasio encouraged demonstrators who pro-

tested the grand jury decision, saying, "Anyone who believes in the values of this country should feel called to action right now." And he said that he has often spoken to his biracial son about "dangers he may face" in interactions with police.

In addition to the back-turning incidents, the main police union earlier this month distributed a flier to

officers urging them to disinvite the mayor from their funerals should they die in the line of duty.

With de Blasio at odds with many officers, the police commissioner, William J. Bratton, has been thrust into the role of peacemaker. On Sunday, he stood by de Blasio's comments on race relations - saying it is the "reality" that officers have to deal with. But Bratton said he understood the officers' frustrations, even if he found it "inappropriate" to express them at the funeral of an officer slain on the job.

Bratton also addressed the graduates.

"We are at a very difficult time in this country, in this city, and in this department," he conceded.

But he added, "You have the opportunity with that badge on your chest to do extraordinary things."

De Blasio is arranging meetings with five unions representing officers of nearly all ranks. He has faced the sharpest criticism from the head of the union for patrol officers, Patrick J. Lynch, who along with other officers turned his back on the mayor on Dec. 20 after Ramos and his patrol partner, Wenjian Liu, were shot dead in their marked car.

That night, Lynch said that responsibility for the officers' deaths - "the blood on the hands" - started at the office of the mayor. □

2 gunmen open fire on police car in Los Angeles

TAMI ABDOLLAH
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Two men opened fire on a police car patrolling a tough part of Los Angeles, but the two officers inside were not injured and one was able to shoot back, authorities said Monday. One of the suspects was later arrested and the other is on the loose.

The shooting occurred amid heightened tensions over attacks on police elsewhere in the country after grand juries declined to indict white officers in the killings of unarmed black men.

Police have not yet determined a motive for the Sunday night shooting in South Los Angeles — an area plagued by gang violence — but said there were no indications it was linked to other attacks on police in the country.

"It was a complete unprovoked attack," LAPD Deputy Chief Bob Green said initially. "They were just driving on the street, and somebody struck out and tried to kill two policemen."

However, Green later said police also were looking into whether the officers might have driven into an ongoing incident and were inadvertently fired at.

"Last night the initial assessment, based on the reaction of officers and the adrenaline factor, was they were getting ambushed, but, you know, things change and it takes a lot to investigate this," Green said. □

Obama warns GOP he plans to use veto pen

JOSH LEDERMAN
Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — President Barack Obama is warning Republicans in Congress that he won't hesitate to use his veto power to turn back legislation that would undo changes he has made on health care and the environment.

Since taking office in 2009, Obama has only vetoed legislation twice, both in fairly minor circumstances. But with Republicans set to take full control of Congress next year, Obama is losing his last bulwark against a barrage of bills he doesn't like: the Senate.

"I haven't used the veto pen very often since I've been in office," Obama said in an NPR interview airing Monday. "Now, I suspect, there are going to be some times where I've got to pull that pen out."

He added: "I'm going to defend gains that we've made in health care. I'm going to defend gains that we've made on environment and clean air and clean water."

Obama's notice to the Republicans came as he sought to set the tone for a year in which Congress and the president are on a near-certain collision course. Buoyed by decisive gains in last month's midterm elections, Republicans are itching to use their newfound Senate majority to derail Obama's

plans on immigration, climate change and health care, to name a few.

To overturn Obama's veto, Republicans would need the votes of two-thirds of the House and Senate. Their majorities in both

Chamber Leader Mitch McConnell.

"Bipartisan jobs bills will see the light of day and will make it to the President's desk, and he'll have to make decisions about ideology versus creating jobs

Conversely, the likeliest points of friction surround Environmental Protection Agency regulations, the proposed Keystone XL pipeline from Canada to Texas and Obama's unilateral steps on immigration,



Surrounded by Secret Service Agents, President Barack Obama tosses a golf ball between his hands after finishing the 18th hole of a game of golf at Marine Corps Base Hawaii's Kaneohe Klipper Golf Course in Kaneohe, Hawaii during the Obama family vacation.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

chambers are not that large, so they would still need to persuade some Democrats to defy the president.

But Obama said he was hopeful that at least on some issues, that won't be necessary, because there's overlap between his interests and those of congressional Republicans. On that point, at least, he's in agreement with incoming Senate Ma-

for the middle class," McConnell said in response to Obama's comments. "There's a lot we can get done together if the president puts his famous pen to use signing bills rather than vetoing legislation his liberal allies don't like." Potential areas for cooperation include tax reform and global trade deals — both issues where Obama and Republicans see at least partially eye to eye.

which let millions of people in the U.S. illegally avoid deportation and get work permits.

In the interview, recorded before Obama left Washington earlier this month for his annual Hawaii vacation, Obama also offered his most specific diagnosis to date of why Democrats fared so poorly in the midterms. He said he was "obviously frustrated" with the results. □



TUESDAYS Salsa Night

6:15 pm - 9:15pm

FREE

Dancing lessons and workshop by
ArubaSalsa
& Local Band with live
entertainment by Duro

Main Stage - Ground Floor



WEDNESDAYS

8:00 pm - 10:00pm

ANGELO FIGAROA

Local Artist

Live Acoustic Music Entertainment

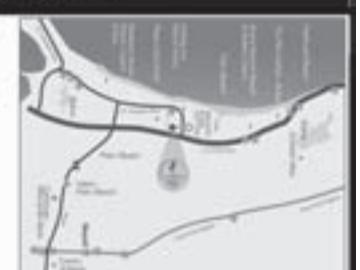
Main Stage - Ground Floor



More than just shopping...

L.G. Smith Boulevard 95 • Palm Beach • Tel +297 586 0045
E mail: info@palmbeachplaza.com
www.palmbeachplaza.com

*We present to you Live
Music and Entertainment.
Come and enjoy the best ambiance,
at the best Mall of the Island.*



US Financial Front:

Why the US will power the world economy in 2015

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is back, and ready to drive global growth in 2015.

After long struggling to claw its way out of the Great Recession, the world's biggest economy is on an extended win streak that is edging it closer to full health. But the new year doesn't look quite so bright in other major countries.

China is slowing as it transitions from investment to consumption. Japan has slid into a recession. Russia appears headed for one. Europe is barely growing. And the U.S.?

Six years after its financial system nearly sank and nearly that long since the recession ended, the United States is expected to grow in 2015 at its fastest pace in a decade. Its expansion from July through September — a 5 percent annual rate — was the swiftest for any quarter since 2003.

That pace will likely ease



2015 Ford F-150 trucks are produced at the Dearborn Truck Plant in Dearborn, Mich. Six years after its financial system nearly sank and nearly that long since the recession ended, the United States seems poised to grow in 2015 at its fastest pace in a decade. Its growth from July through September - a 5 percent annual rate - was the swiftest for any quarter since 2003.

(AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

a bit. Still, the economy is expected to expand 3.1 percent next year, according to a survey by the National Association for Business Economics. It would be the first year of 3 percent growth since 2005.

The acceleration of U.S.

growth is a key reason the global economy is also expected to grow faster, at about 3 percent, up from 2.5 percent in 2014, according to economists at JPMorgan Chase and IHS Global Insight.

US CONSUMERS

In the United States, consumers are the main drivers of growth. And fortunes are looking up for more households. Employers are on track to add the most jobs in 15 years in 2014. As a percentage of income, Americans' debt has dropped to 2002 levels.

In some ways, the U.S. economy actually benefits from slower growth abroad. Investors in search of safety have plowed money into Treasurys, thereby helping hold down inflation and U.S. loan rates, including for mortgages. Lower rates, in turn, could fuel more home sales and construction next year.

Stan Humphries, chief economist at Zillow, thinks Americans ages 25 to 34, stung by higher rents, will buy homes in greater numbers by the end of 2015. Mortgage giants Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae have relaxed their down payment requirements, which were a strain for younger would-be buyers. Humphries also thinks developers will build more lower-priced homes that millennials can afford.

Some signs of hope overseas have emerged. Falling oil prices should benefit people in Europe, Japan and China, all of which import oil. And analysts expect the European Central Bank to ramp up its stimulus efforts, possibly by buying government bonds. That step would inject more cash into the economy to boost lending and keep rates low.

CHEAPER OIL

Plunging oil prices are a big reason for the optimism. Prices have been cut roughly in half since summer. In some areas of the country, gasoline prices have slipped below \$2 a gallon. The drop, along with more fuel-efficient cars, will save the average U.S. household \$550 on gas next year, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. That means consumers have more to

spend on items like cars, furniture and appliances. What's more, Americans' finances are in firmer shape. Job growth is accelerating. Businesses are investing in buildings and software, and home building is expected to pick up.

Lower oil prices will also help Europe and Japan, and the global economy should expand faster than it did this year, economists say. But the divergence between the United States and most of the rest of the world is striking and carries some risks. Big exporters, from China to Germany to Japan, will depend heavily on a recovering U.S. to boost their economies.

A pickup in global growth "is highly dependent on the assumption that the U.S. economy continues to improve," said Douglas Porter, chief economist at BMO Capital Markets. "If that doesn't play out, there's not much left for the global economy to fall back on."

SWIRLING GLOBAL HEADWINDS

Even if the U.S. economy does strengthen further, the rest of the world could struggle. For one thing, faster growth will likely lead the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates in 2015, which could draw more investment from overseas. The inflow of capital would raise the dollar's value and potentially cause destabilizing drops in other currencies. Governments and businesses overseas that borrowed in dollars would find it harder to repay those debts.

The hot economies of the last decade — the emerging markets of Brazil, Russia, India and China collectively known as the "BRICs" — will likely grow in 2015 at their slowest pace in six years, according to Oxford Economics, a forecasting firm. Falling oil and commodity prices have smacked Brazil and Russia particularly hard.

China may expand 6.5 percent or more. □

EXCELSIOR CASINO, located at Holiday Inn
The most complete gambling experience!!

★ POKER
★ SLOT MACHINES
★ BLACK JACK
★ RACE & SPORT BOOK ★ CRAPS
★ ROULETTE TABLES ★ BINGO

Lady Luck is waiting for you at **EXCELSIOR CASINO!**
For more information give us a call (297) 586-7777



Worcester mother pleads not guilty in babies' deaths

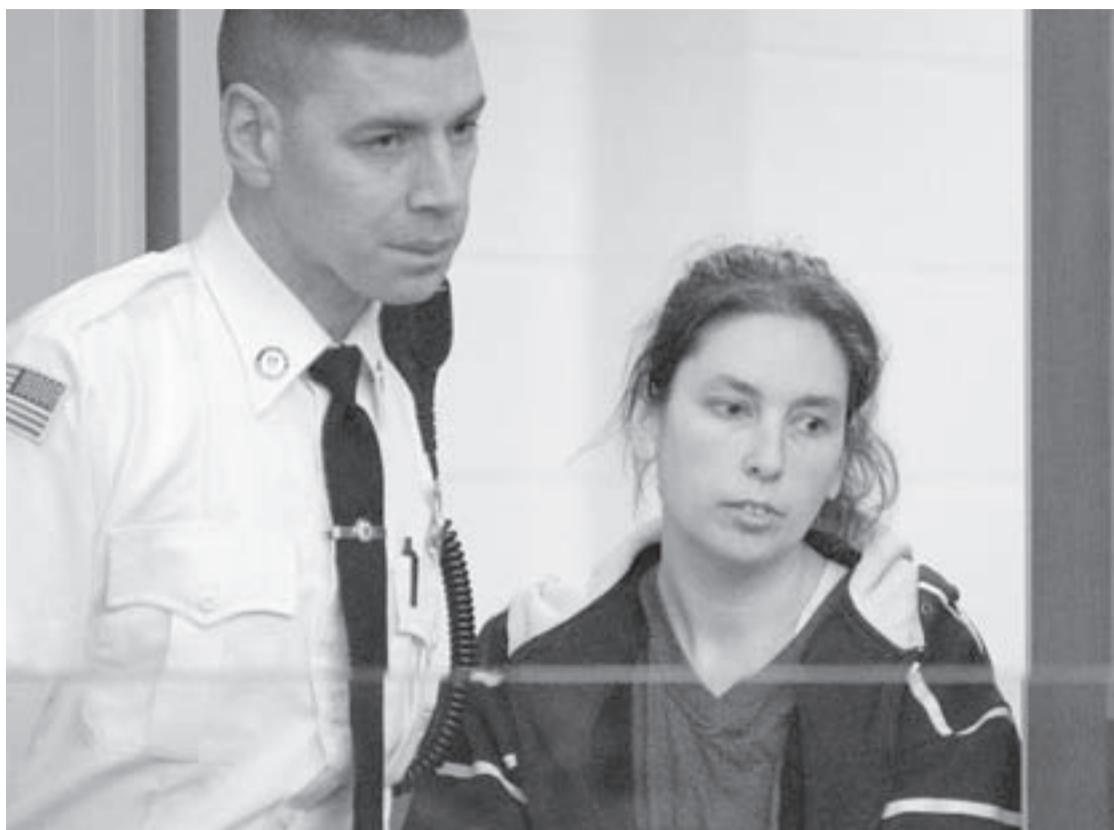
PHILIP MARCELO
Associated Press

WORCESTER, Massachusetts (AP)—A woman who lived in a squalid home where police said they found the skeletal remains of three babies pleaded not guilty Monday to two counts of murder.

Erika Murray, 31, spoke clearly as she was arraigned Monday on nine charges. Judge James Lemire ordered her held without bail. Her next court date is Feb. 4. The mother of seven children — four living, three deceased — had originally been charged with fetal death concealment. She had pleaded not guilty to that lower charge and has since been jailed on \$1 million bail.

Earlier this month, a grand jury indicted Murray on the nine counts. The charges also include two counts of assault and battery on a child causing substantial bodily injury, two counts of reckless endangerment of a child, two counts of cruelty to animals and one count of concealing a fetal death.

Murray's lawyer, Keith Halpern, has said there's



Erika Murray of Blackstone, Mass. is brought in to Worcester Superior Court to be arraigned on 2 counts of murder and other charges in Worcester, Mass., Monday, Dec. 29, 2014. Murray pleaded not guilty to two counts of murder after the skeletal remains of three babies were found in her squalid home.

no evidence she caused the deaths of the three babies.

Prosecutors said Murray gave birth to the five youngest children in the house's bathroom, attempting to hide their existence from their father because he did not want to have more children.

She appears to have kept them almost entirely in upstairs bedrooms filled with trash.

The two murder charges relate to two dead infants, who were found wearing diapers and one-piece infant outfits. The other set of remains was a fetus, authorities have said. All

three were found in bedroom closets.

Halpern argued in court for Murray's release until trial, saying that prosecutors had not made a case for keeping her in isolation in a women's prison.

But Assistant District Attorney John Bradley argued that the circumstances

of the case, including the deplorable living conditions in the house and the health of the surviving children, were reasons enough.

Bradley said the dead fetus had the placenta and umbilical cord still attached; a 3-year-old could neither talk nor walk, was severely malnourished and had maggots in her ears; and a nearly 6-month-old appeared to have spent much of her young life on her back.

State police entered the Blackstone home on Sept. 10 after a neighbor had discovered the older children severely neglected.

Police found the house contained dead animals, was infested with rodents and insects and was piled high with dirty diapers and trash. Workers in hazmat suits spent days cleaning out the house, which was eventually condemned and demolished.

Murray's four living children, who ranged in age from about 5 months to 13 years when they were removed from the home in September, are in the custody of state child welfare officials. □

NYE at La Trattoria El Faro Blanco
December 31, 2014
Dinner seating 6:00 - 8:30PM
Fireworks show at 12:00AM
Live Band all night!

Appetizer
MOZZARELLA DI CAPRI
Fresh mozzarella cheese served with tomatoes and basil
or
INSALATA FARO BLANCO
Mixed lettuce, sliced almonds, cranberries and peaches, served with our house dressing
or
FRUTTI DI MARE ALLA LUCIANA
Baby shrimp, baby octopus and squid mixed and marinated with garlic, olive oil, white vinegar, red peppers, celery, onions and lemon juice.

Happy New Year
2015

Main Course

FETTUCCINE AL SALMONE AFFUMICATO
Our home made Fettuccini in a rich creamy pick sauce served with chopped smoked Salmon
or
PETTO DI TACCHINO AL FARO BIANCO
Turkey breast topped with our unique New Years Eve champagne sauce, served with mashed potato and broccoli
or
FILETTO DI PESCE AL FRATE
Fish fillet with fresh rosemary, olive oil and white wine baked with a layer of thinly sliced potatoes
or
OSSOBUCCO DI VITELLO CON RISOTTO MILANESE
Veal Ossobucco (shank) baked with red wine, white wine, parsley, rosemary, garlic, oregano, onions and lemon juice served with our Special cheese risotto.

Dessert

FESTA AL CHIOTCOLATO
Petite Panna cotta (Twentieth Century Custard topped with Hot Chocolate), Mousse di cioccolato (Chocolate mousse) and Tiramisu
or
GELATO
Home made Italian Ice Cream

Price \$12.6
Giant portion charged with tax included

LA TRATTORIA EL FARO BLANCO

JOLLY PIRATES \$10 Off

SAIL, SNORKEL, SWIM & SWING
DAILY 9am - 1pm \$60 pp
 Visit 3 Great sites with BBQ,
 Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

AFTERNOON CRUISE
DAILY 2pm - 5pm \$45 pp
 Our shorter snorkel cruise, with
 Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

DAILY SUNSET SAIL
DAILY 5:30pm - 7:30pm \$32 pp
 Enjoy spectacular sunset. Open
 Bar & Ropeswing included

Tickets available at Jolly Pirates Shop at MooMba Beach. Boarding at MooMba Beach- by the high rise hotels between Holiday Inn and Marriott Resorts. Offer not valid in combination with other discount offers. Valid for direct telephone reservations ONLY - Present coupon at boarding **586 8107/592 7858**

Save \$10 per couple/per coupon for morning cruise Save \$5 per couple/ per coupon for afternoon cruise

American Living:

A Google gentrification fight outside of San Francisco

C. DOUGHERTY

© 2014 New York Times

The locals say they don't like the tech folks pouring into town to work at places like Google. They're insular. They're driving up housing prices. And they fear those newcomers are more like invaders than people trying to fit into their new community.

For once, this is not about San Francisco.

In Boulder, Colorado, Google is running into problems that would be quite familiar to people in the Bay Area. Over the past month, as the City Council approved a plan to let Google build a 4-acre campus where the company would have the space to quintuple its local workforce to about 1,500 people, there has been a spirited debate about Google's potential effect on local home prices and whether the company's country-club-like campuses would pair with the city's desire to increase walking and pedestrian traffic.

It's easy to see why Google would want to be in Boulder. The city, about a half-hour drive from Denver, has an educated populace and a well-regarded university, and - with its mountain locale and a combination of open space and compact, walkable development - is considered a fantastic place to live. The company has said its Boulder office works on apps like Google Earth and Google Drive, and also has sales and marketing teams.

But cities - in particular, cities like Boulder that are already pretty successful - can have mixed feelings about good, well-paying jobs of the sort Google

concerns about Google's potential to raise home prices higher than they already are.

One resident, Allison Davis, who recently moved

ish campuses - with cafeterias, exercise areas and lounge-like common spaces where employees chill out behind closed doors - will create a dead

planner's dream. It will be next to a major bus depot, which should encourage its workers to take public transit. Googlers who do not take the bus are likely to car-pool or ride bikes, given that the campus will have just 600 parking spots for more than twice that number of workers.

The company also agreed to put a bike and pedestrian path through the middle of its campus, creating a public thoroughfare through the property.

And, of course, there are other benefits of having a big company like Google in town. For instance, it is likely to step up its hiring of graduates from the University of Colorado, Boulder - people who may not be able to stay in town if the local economy does not add jobs.

Google writes a lot of checks to nonprofits and encourages its workers to volunteer. And while its free-lunch policy will never win the favor of local sandwich shops, the company noted that most of the food in its cafeterias is from local farms and merchants.

Still, Elizabeth Payton, a member of the planning board, pushed back against the idea that Boulder is lucky to have Google. Maybe, she said, it is the other way around. "The citizens have worked really hard and they have paid a lot of extra taxes to create this fabulous place," she said. "It may be luck, but maybe we created this place where Google wants to be. Maybe it's not just luck." □



A cyclist descends the Boulder Creek Bike Path in Boulder, Colo. Google's plans to expand in the city have raised concerns among residents.

(Brett Wilhelm/The New York Times)

brings.

"Prices are rising. We are becoming less and less affordable to lower and middle income. We're also seeing local businesses that have been here for decades being priced out," said Suzanne Jones, a City Council member. "It puts a finer point on this issue of, where are we headed? Attracting big business is great, on the one hand, but it will be part of that change on the other."

In meetings, in emails to City Council members like Jones and with letters to the local newspaper, The Daily Camera, Boulderites have expressed grave

home to Boulder after three years in Google's hometown, Mountain View, California, wrote a letter to The Daily Camera relaying her observations on what happened to the Bay Area.

"As Google expanded, they rapidly priced out those who had not been lucky enough to buy housing in Mountain View before 1990. A city can lose its feel easily in a decade, and I already see that happening in Boulder," she wrote.

Another point of contention, raised by both the City Council and the city's planning board, was that Google's famously lav-

ish zone for pedestrian and retail activity.

When the proposal came before the planning board this year, a board member suggested that the company include first-floor retail shops to attract people who do not work at the company to the area. A Google spokeswoman said the company discussed the idea, but ultimately decided against retail space for a number of reasons, including a concern that it would increase car traffic.

Traffic, of course, was another big concern. Google has noted that when it comes to transit, the campus is an urban



- Breakfast & Lunch
- High Tea Party's
- Private Dinners
- Caterings
- The Suikertuin Private



Responses to Norman Atlantic ferry fire questioned

E. POVOLEDO

© 2014 New York Times

VERBANIA, Italy - As black smoke gushed from the lower decks of the stricken ferry, Italian and Greek fireboats bobbed alongside, blasting water at the flames, while overhead helicopters churned through heavy Adriatic winds and mist to rescue the increasingly desperate passengers.

Adm. Giuseppe De Giorgi, the Italian navy's chief of staff, described the operation as one of the largest and most dramatic rescue missions his country had ever undertaken, with 427 people evacuated from the burning ship.

Even so, at least 10 people were known to have died after the ferry, the Norman Atlantic, caught fire Sunday en route to Ancona, Italy, from the Greek port of Patras, and there were concerns that some passengers might still be missing even after the evacuation had been completed. Questions also quickly arose about emergency preparations and the response of the crew after passengers interviewed in Italian newspapers and on television spoke of disorganization and chaos after the blaze got out of control.

In an interview with *La Repubblica*, a Rome newspaper, the Greek soprano Dimitra Theodossiou described a harrowing wait for rescuers on the bridge of the ship. She said men had rushed forward from lower decks, even after being told to "to give precedence to children, the elderly and women."

"They pulled people away, pushing people aside to save themselves," she said. "I was also struck, but I reacted to get to the helicopter, I had rage inside. I



A mother rescued from the fire-struck ferry Norman Atlantic reacts as she hugs her children after arriving from Italy to Igoumenitsa port, northwestern Greece, on Monday, Dec. 29, 2014. About 69 passengers from the Norman Atlantic arrived in Greece by Cruise Europa ferry as the death toll climbed to 10 as survivors told of a frantic rush to escape, caught among flames, pelting rain and passengers who fought others for rescue.

thought, it's now or never. It was awful. I will never forget it."

Theodossiou told the newspaper that no alarms had sounded and that she awoke in her first-class cab-

in after smelling smoke. Initially, she said, she went to the lower deck because the life boats were there. "Some were put at sea, others weren't and I don't know why," she said.

(AP Photo/Giannis Papanikos)

Christos Perlis, 32, a Greek truck driver interviewed by The Associated Press, also said that men had tried to punch their way forward. "Everyone there was trampling on each other to get

onto the helicopter," he said.

Spray from the fireboats soaked the already cold passengers.

"Our feet were burning, and from the feet up we were soaked," Perlis added.

An unidentified man interviewed by television reporters in the Italian port of Bari said several people had fallen overboard in the darkness.

Italian, Greek and Albanian rescue workers had accounted for 427 people as of Monday afternoon, the authorities said. But that number fell short of the 478 passengers and crew listed on the original manifest. Adding to the confusion, some of the passengers rescued were not listed on the manifest at all, and may have been on the ship illegally.

"We hope that no other people are missing," Maurizio Lupi, Italy's transportation minister, told a news conference Monday in Rome. □

Russian ruble drops 7% as economy shrinks

NATALIYA VASILYEVA

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — The Russian currency extended its losses on Monday after a report showed the economy has started shrinking in annual terms for the first time since 2009 as the country is buffeted by falling oil prices and Western sanctions. Meanwhile, the government, which has been scrambling to support the ruble and the economy, announced fresh steps to keep the banks afloat.

The ruble has been one of the world's worst performing currencies this year and was down another 5 percent on Monday, trading at 56 rubles per dollar in early

afternoon in Moscow, wiping off some of the gains it made last week.

The fall came as the Economic Development Ministry issued a report showing the economy shrank by 0.5 percent in November compared with a year earlier. The ministry attributed the year-on-year decline in the economy, Russia's first in five years, to a sharp drop in manufacturing and investment.

The economy has been buffeted by a combination of lower prices for the country's crucial oil exports and the impact of Western sanctions.

Stabilizing the ruble is a priority for the country's

monetary authorities. The Central Bank in past weeks raised its key interest rate to 17 percent and said it will offer dollar and euro loans to banks so they can help major exporters that need foreign currencies to finance operations.

The bank's foreign currency reserve has now dropped below \$400 billion for the first time since August 2009, as the government has been selling the currency on the market to support the ruble. Many Russian companies and banks have been locked out of Western capital markets following the sanctions imposed on the country for its involvement in Ukraine.

The government on Monday announced new steps to prop up the banking sector. Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev told a government session that he has just signed a decree to provide a total of 1 trillion rubles (\$19.6 billion) to Russian banks. The list of the banks and the amount that each of them will receive is expected drawn up by mid-January, according to Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov. Shuvalov said the measures should help "the banking sector be more stable in the new circumstances and safeguard it from new shocks if they do occur," he was quoted by Tass. □



Tango Restaurant is open 7 days a week from 4 pm till 11 pm
Indoor & outdoor seating - Large Terrace with live music

EARLY BIRD 3-Course Menu
Served between 4 pm and 7 pm
Not valid in combination with other offers
Special \$22.95



British patient being treated for Ebola in Glasgow

GREGORY KATZ

JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — A female health care worker who has just returned from Sierra Leone has been diagnosed with Ebola and is being treated in a Glasgow hospital, Scottish authorities said Monday.

Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon called it the first case of Ebola ever diagnosed inside the United Kingdom.

The patient flew to Glasgow via Casablanca and London's Heathrow Airport, arriving late Sunday, the Scottish government said.

The health care worker was admitted to a hospital on Monday morning after developing a fever.

Sturgeon said the risk to the public is "extremely low to the point of negligible" and that pre-planned steps would be taken to protect the public.

"Scotland has been preparing for this possibility



A general view of the Gartnavel Hospital campus, Glasgow, where a healthcare worker who returned from Sierra Leone last night is receiving treatment after being diagnosed with Ebola, Monday, Dec. 29, 2014. The Scottish government says the patient flew to Glasgow via Casablanca and London's Heathrow Airport, arriving late Sunday Dec. 28, 2014.

(AP Photo/PA, Danny Lawson)

from the beginning of the outbreak in west Africa, and I am confident that we are well prepared," she said, adding that the patient is "stable" and would

soon be transferred to an isolation unit at the Royal Free Hospital in London. She said the patient, who is not being identified, had traveled on an internal Brit-

ish Airways flight from London to Glasgow on Sunday night and that the other 71 passengers and staff on that flight will be contacted.

But she said the patient was not yet showing symptoms at the time and that people in that stage are much less contagious than they are after they exhibit symptoms, which include a high fever, diarrhea and vomiting.

The patient became ill Monday morning and contacted health officials. She was soon admitted to the Brownlee Unit for Infectious Diseases at Gartnavel Hospital in Glasgow.

The patient had been screened for symptoms before leaving at Sierra Leone and at London Heathrow Airport, Sturgeon said.

The first minister said the patient had only had contact with one other person in Scotland and that person's health will be monitored.

The only previous victim of the often-fatal disease in Britain was William Pooley, a nurse who contracted the disease while treating patients in Sierra Leone. □

Chinese access to Gmail cut, regulators blamed

DIDI TANG

Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese access to Google Inc.'s email service has been blocked amid government efforts to limit or possibly ban access to the U.S. company's services, which are popular among Chinese who seek to avoid government monitoring.

Data from Google's Transparency Report show online traffic from China to Gmail fell precipitously on Friday and dropped to nearly zero on Saturday, although there was a tiny pickup on Monday.

Taj Meadows, a spokesman for Google Asia Pa-

cific, said Google has checked its email service and "there's nothing technically wrong on our end." Earl Zmijewski, vice president of data analytics at U.S.-based Internet analysis firm Dyn Research, said his tests showed that China's government had blocked Google IP addresses in Hong Kong used by people on the mainland to access Gmail services. Calls to the government regulator, the China Internet Information Office, were unanswered Monday. Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said she did not know about any block but that China welcomes

foreign investors who conduct business legally in the country.

Spokesman Jeff Rathke said in a statement that the U.S. State Department found the development troubling.

"We continue to be concerned by efforts in China to undermine freedom of expression, including on the Internet, and we believe Chinese authorities' censorship of the media and of certain Web sites is incompatible with China's aspirations to build a modern information-based economy and society," he said.

Google closed its main-

land China search engine in 2009, saying it would no longer cooperate with the country's censors. That followed hacking attacks traced to China aimed at stealing the company's operating code and breaking into email accounts.

Since then, access to Google services has been periodically limited or blocked, possibly in an effort to pressure Chinese users into abandoning Google products and shifting to services from domestic companies willing to cooperate with the government.

Google products are popular among Chinese young

people and activists who do not want their email communications to be monitored or intercepted by the Chinese government.

Web access in China to Gmail has been blocked since June, according to Greatfire.org, a China-based advocacy group for Internet freedom, but users had been able to access the mail service through mobile apps or third-party email software such as Microsoft Outlook and Apple Mail until the current block. It was not immediately clear what prompted the complete ban at this time. □

Aruba's NR 1 HOT SPOT for local food with spectacular sunsets!

HAPPY HOUR 2 for 1 12 to 1pm & 5 to 7pm

Located between Marriott Surf club & Moomba beach

Open from 8am - 10pm

Drinks with a view!

Nos Clubhuis aruba

Tel. 5831188

free WiFi

Upstairs from Hadicurari Restaurant

ARUBA WINE DINE

Venezuela's opposition questions key judicial appointments

JORGE RUEDA

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Venezuela's opposition is blasting a string of key appointments it says will further bend the country's judiciary to the interests of President Nicolas Maduro's socialist government.

Among the 12 Supreme Court justices appointed Sunday by the National Assembly are two judges responsible for the decade-long imprisonment of a former Caracas police chief whose case has rallied the opposition.

Last week, the government-dominated legislature also extended for another seven years the term of questioned chief prosecutor Luisa Ortega — one of several Venezuelan officials targeted by U.S. sanctions for cracking down on anti-government protests earlier this year — and named two government allies, a former governor and the current Attorney General, to head the nominally independent human rights and anti-corruption watchdog agencies.

Venezuela's constitution requires two-thirds of lawmakers approve high-level judicial appointments from a slate of candidates pre-

approved by a citizens' committee that's supposed to be free of interference by the executive. But in deeply polarized Venezuela, the months-long selection process has been marred by nasty bickering from the outset, making compromise impossible.

With many appointments overdue, the pro-government majority in the legislature bypassed the rules, in some cases approving appointments by a simple majority and, more controversially, leaving to the Supreme Court the task of appointing three of the five members of the National Electoral Council who will oversee next year's parliamentary elections.

The government accuses the opposition of being obstructionist, while the government's critics say such moves violate the constitution.

The Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists earlier this year criticized Venezuela's "very weak" legal institutions, saying that the government pressures judges to jail its opponents and rubber stamp decisions. "Judicial appointments in Venezuela are used like an award meted out to those



Former Congresswoman and opposition leader Maria Corina Machado holds up the Venezuelan flag outside of the Attorney General Office in Caracas, Venezuela. Venezuela's opposition is blasting a string of key appointments it says will further bend the country's judiciary to the interests of President Nicolas Maduro's socialist government.

(AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos)

who show unconditional support for the revolution," said Antonio Canova, a Ca-

racas lawyer and author of a new book analyzing 45,474 rulings by the Supreme Court

since 2004, not a single one found to rebuke the government's interests. □

NGO: Venezuela homicide rate rises to world's 2nd

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— A non-governmental group that tracks crime in Venezuela says the country's homicide rate rose again in 2014.

The Venezuelan Violence Observatory estimates that 24,980 killings occurred this year, pushing the homicide rate up to 82 per 100,000 inhabitants. The group says that makes Venezuela the No. 2 country in the world for killings, after Honduras. Last year, the observatory counted 79 killings per 100,000 people. In

1998, the rate was 19 per 100,000.

The report published Monday is based on press reports, victim surveys and officials' comments. Venezuelan authorities generally dispute the group's findings, and say the crime situation is improving.

Victims include people in wealthy and poor neighborhoods, and armed guards and police. Over the weekend, a National Guardsman was killed in Caracas, reportedly to steal his motorcycle. □



FOR THE HUNGRY!

RED FISH DELICIOUS DISHES

- 1/2 Lb Fresh Fish \$10.85
- 1 Lb Fresh Fish \$20.00
- 1/2 Lb Fresh Shrimp \$15.40
- 1 Lb Fresh Shrimp \$25.70
- 1 Lb Fish & Shrimps \$25.70
- Calco (conch) & Shrimp \$25.15
in creole or garlic sauce
- Balchi di Pisca (2 fish cakes) \$10.85
- Fish Soup \$6.90



MENU ITEMS

RED FISH MENU SAMPLE

- Fish Filet pan fried \$18.55
with creole or garlic sauce
- Calco "Conch" \$21.70
in creole or garlic sauce
- Pan fried Lobster 6oz \$20.00
- Filet Mignon 6oz. Angus \$18.30
- Chicken Sate \$10.85

CALL NOW
FOR RESERVATIONS
OR TAKE OUT!

Tel. 280-6666

Open daily from 11:30am - 10:00pm (closed on Mondays) • Orange Mall Sasaki

red sail sports.
Caribbean Sail

Enjoy the sunset and a fantastic Caribbean buffet dinner aboard our catamaran. The sail includes steel drum music and open bar.

Tuesday from 5:30 to 8:00 pm

Book now! www.redsailaruba.com or by phone: (+297) 586-1603



Live music



Caribbean Cocktails



Fun with friends

Cuba-America detente upends life for Cuban dissidents

M. WEISSENSTEIN

A. RODRIGUEZ

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — President Barack Obama told the world this month that en-

dom on the island.

Less than two weeks after it was announced, the U.S.-Cuba detente is upending the civil society Obama hopes to strengthen. The

undercutting the island's hard-line dissidents while boosting more moderate reformers who want to push President Raul Castro gradually toward granting

a new U.S. policy of negotiation with a government that Washington and the U.S.-backed opponents worked for decades to undermine. They say they fear that detente serves the Castro administration's aspiration of following China and Vietnam by improving the economy without conceding citizens significantly greater freedoms.

"I think President Obama made a mistake," said Berta Soler, head of the Ladies in White, Cuba's best-known dissident group. "Cuba won't change while the Castros are around. There will be positive changes for the government of Cuba, but not for the Cuban people."

Moderates say the new balance of power inside the small, fractious world of Cuba's opposition will produce political change by offering Castro a type of engagement that's harder to reject: a negotiated, more controlled opening meant to avoid the sort of disorderly transition that scarred the former Soviet Union and, more recently,

the countries of the Arab Spring. "Destabilization, disorder, anarchy, that's never been on the agenda in the minds of Cubans, and whoever has this agenda isn't going to be able to find space," said Eliezer Avila, a 29-year-old computer engineer who leads We Are More, a small, year-old opposition group pushing for economic reform and political pluralism.

What's unknown is whether the Cuban government will engage with the newly energized, more moderate members of civil society, or continue to sharply limit free speech, freedom of assembly and freedom of association as threats to the country's single-party system. Raul Castro told Cuba's National Assembly Dec. 20 that warmer relations with the U.S. would not change the system.

A major test will come during April's Summit of the Americas in Panama, a gathering of Western Hemispheric leaders where Obama and Raul Castro are expected to meet. A forum including figures from civil society inside Cuba is to be organized on the sidelines, and seems

likely to spawn debate between the U.S. and Cuba, and among reformers from the island. "There will be some negotiations or discussions behind the scenes as to who gets invited, I would imagine," said Richard Feinberg, a specialist in U.S.-Cuban relations at the University of California, San Diego. The detente "has disoriented the hard-liners and empowered the moderates," said Feinberg. "The moderates have the opportunity to become the face of Cuban civil society in Cuba and to the world."



Cuban dissident Antonio Rodiles speaks during a gathering of Cuba's dissident group Ladies in White in Havana, Cuba. Cuba's government has long narrowly defined the bounds of acceptable speech, accusing many dissidents of being as agents of the U.S. government or right-wing exile groups, and subjecting them to surveillance, temporary detention and harassment. Advocates of a softer line usually receive less harsh treatment.

(AP Photo/Desmond Boylan)

gaging Cuba is the best way to strengthen people pushing for greater free-

prospect of engagement between the two Cold War antagonists seems to be

citizens more liberties. The traditional dissidents say they feel betrayed by

American mission in Havana to become embassy

PETER ORSI

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — A half-century after Washington severed relations with Cuba, the United States' seven-story mission looms over Havana's seaside Malecon boulevard as the largest diplomatic outpost in the country.

Cuban guards stand at close intervals on the street outside, and islanders line up by the thousands each year for a shot at a coveted visa.

The gleaming U.S. Interests Section suddenly is poised to become an even more important presence in Cuba as the two countries

negotiate the first phase of their historic detente — transforming the complex into a full embassy that would reflect the Obama administration's hopes of new influence on the communist island.

Roberta Jacobson, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Western Hemisphere affairs, will be the highest known U.S. administration official to visit in decades when she comes next month for annual talks on migration that will now also focus on the details of re-establishing full diplomatic relations.

The discussions are expected to cover expanding

staffing in the two countries' interests sections and letting diplomats travel outside their respective capitals without having to ask permission.

Also part of the reopening of the embassy: symbolic measures such as raising the American flag on the Malecon.

"Opening an embassy is a symbolic gesture, but symbols are really important," John Caulfield, who was Interests Section chief from 2011 to 2014, said by phone from Jacksonville, Florida, where he retired.

"This is a pretty powerful symbol by our president that we want to have a

more normal relationship with Cuba despite the fact that we have the obvious differences," he added.

Cuba's interests section is a stately manor in Washington's Adams Morgan neighborhood. It, too, stands to become an embassy.

Diplomats say privately that Washington hopes to boost staffing in Havana, currently at about 50 Americans and 300 Cuban workers, as more American travelers and trade delegates are expected to come here under new rules to be set by the White House softening the U.S. trade embargo on Cuba. □

Continued on Page 27

LOCAL Aruba TODAY

Big Group of Families Honored at the Divi Tamarijn Resort!

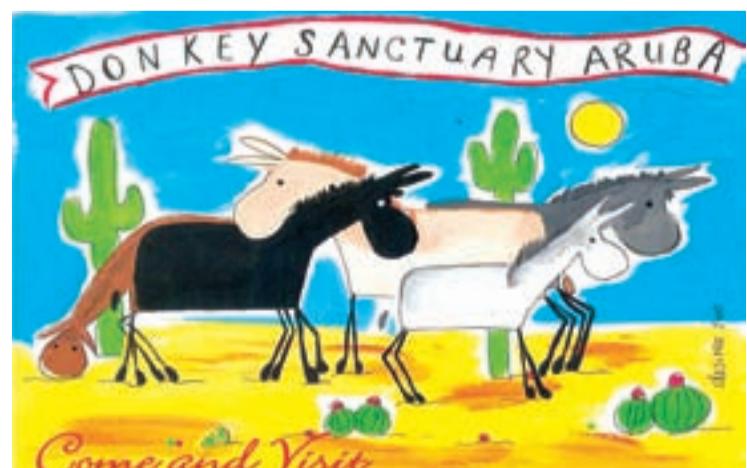


EAGLE BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of nice families whom are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, at the Tamarijn Beach

Resort, as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassador of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who

visit Aruba for 10-to-19 and 20-or-more consecutive years. The honorees come from the Walsh family of Winchester, Massachusetts, the Zukerman family of Toronto, Ontario, the Nasson

family of Lexington, Massachusetts, the Mc Donald family of South Dennis, Massachusetts, and the Bradshaw family of Berkeley, Massachusetts. All the families are loyal guests of the Divi Tamarijn Resort and they love Aruba very much for the climate, beaches, restaurants, and to meet every year with their wonderful Aruban friends. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Management and staff members of the Divi Tamarijn Beach Resort. □



2K Double Point Tuesday!

Earn DOUBLE POINTS All Day Long!

Use your Alhambra Advantage card to play our slots from 10am to 4am and we'll DOUBLE your points!

THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO

Offering a wide variety of Retail & Dining Outlets, Salon & Spa Services, Souvenirs and more.

Baskin Robbins | Dunkin Donuts | Fusion Piano & Wine Bar
 Juan Valdez Café | Subway | R-Glass | Shalom Body and Soul Spa
 Hollywood Smokehouse | Hungry Piranha | Aruba Aloe
 Bijoux Terner Boutique | The Lazy Lizard | The Market
 TOF Twist of Flavors

Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47
 583.5000 • casinoalhambra.com

Barry and Rhoda Kesselman Honored at the Marriott Resort



PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple whom are loyal and friendly Visitor of Aruba, as Ambassadors of Good will at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino. The

symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-or-more consecutive years.

The honorees were Mr. Barry and Mrs. Rhoda Kessel-

man from Sharon, Boston, Massachusetts.

Barry and Rhoda are visiting our island for over 30 years and have stayed at several of our Resorts, but now are loyal guests of the Marriott Resort and they love Aruba very much be-



cause of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, and Aruba feels like a second home, the people are like a family to them, specially their good friend Mr. Henry Franken from TX 59. The certifi-

cates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mr. Henry Franken and Mr. Matt Knight, GM of the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino. □

ALHYDRAN, a highly recommended medical moisture-regulating gel-cream in burn clinics worldwide, now locally available.

Tourists and locals love Aruba Aloe's skin care and sun care products, but what most people don't know is that Aruba Aloe also produces a highly concentrated moisture-regulating gel-cream called *Alhydran*, which is used for the aftercare treatment of burn scars, surgical wounds, redness, itching, rashes after laser therapy or radiotherapy, and other scar tissue. This very effective cream has become one of the new standards in scar treatment in university hospitals and burn clinics worldwide. Sold in over 22 countries, this unique Aruban export product is now locally available in all Aruba Aloe stores and on www.arubaaloe.com.

A success story

Wim Arns, a middle-aged Dutch man, got severely burned on his hands and face when cigar ashes drifted down into a bucket of paraffin oil he was holding, causing a spontaneous explosion. Wim: "After being treated in the Burn Centre in Rotterdam, the doctors referred me to a skin therapist in my hometown to continue the aftercare of the burn scars. My skin felt really tight and itchy, and I wanted a cream to help with this. That's when the therapist recommended *Alhydran*. Already within an hour of applying the cream, I felt my skin had more space to breathe and the itching stopped. My face has healed completely, the skin has total flexibility again, and the same goes for my hands. Therapy certainly contributed to this, but I attribute the flexibility of the skin and eradication of the itching to the use of *Alhydran*."

Alhydran through the eyes of a professional

Rina Rijkenberg is a certified skin therapist in Oosterbeek, the Netherlands. As a specialist, she has different skin products to choose from, but *Alhydran* is her #1 solution. Rina: "A lot of complaints are that the skin feels dry, itchy, red, sensitive, and painful, which are symptoms frequently associated with burn victims, lymph edema patients, and people who have undergone radiation therapy or have general scar tissue, acne, or excessive hair. All this can be caused by a deregulation in the moisture levels of the skin. The secret to *Alhydran* is that it regulates the moisture levels of the skin continuously in an unprecedented way. A very high dosage of pure Aloe Vera gel delivers the hydration, and pure Vitamin C, Vitamin E, and Jojoba oil prolong the activity. Patients can actually see and feel their skin healing."

Visit Aruba Aloe to receive a free sample of Alhydran

Alhydran is now available in all Aruba Aloe stores and on www.arubaaloe.com. Aruba Aloe invites both tourists and locals to visit its stores, mention the promotion code **NEWSPAPER**, and receive a free sample of *Alhydran* to experience its amazing benefits for themselves. With the holidays here, people will be cooking a lot and perhaps handling fireworks, so it's a good idea to have *Alhydran* on hand, which is ideal for treating burns and preventing scars.

Points of Sale

For more information about the locations of our Aruba Aloe stores, please consult the list below or visit www.arubaaloe.com/stores online.

• Aruba Aloe Factory & Museum Store (Hato)	• Aruba Aloe Divi Links (Divi Aruba Hotel)
• Aruba Aloe Renaissance	• Aruba Aloe Tamarijn Tamarijn Aruba Hotel)
• Aruba Aloe La Cabana	• Aruba Aloe Occidental (Occidental Hotel)
• Aruba Aloe Paseo Herencia (Shopping mall)	• Aruba Aloe Marriott Ocean Club
• Aruba Aloe Alhambra	• Aruba Aloe Riu Palace Antillas
• Aruba Aloe Arawak (Palm beach)	• Aruba Aloe Main Street
• Aruba Aloe Cruise Terminal (APA Cruise Terminal)	• Aruba Aloe at The Village (In front of Radisson Resort)



RENT ONE OF THESE TO

Explore Aruba

& discover hidden secrets!



vela
Watersports Center

**\$5 P.P.
ONE CONTRACT**

Located between The Marriott and The Ritz Carlton

Windsurfing-Kitesurfing-Paddleboard-SUP Yoga-Kayak

BOOK NOW: (+297) 586-3735

**\$5 P.P.
ONE CONTRACT**

Windsurfing lessons & rentals
Kitesurfing lessons & rentals
Mountain bike tours & rentals
Landsailing
SUP

Aruba-Active-Vacations.com
Tel: (+297) 586 0989

Located 1/4 mile past the Ritz Carlton Hotel
(Blue trailers, colored flags)

This space can be yours

CALL for more information about our Special Price
Tel: 582-7800

We will personally make your ad just the way you like it ...

For reservation in this page call 582-7800

PRICE ARE BASE ON A 6 MONTH OR A YEAR CONTRACT.

Fun & Sun at the Pelican Pier on Palm Beach!



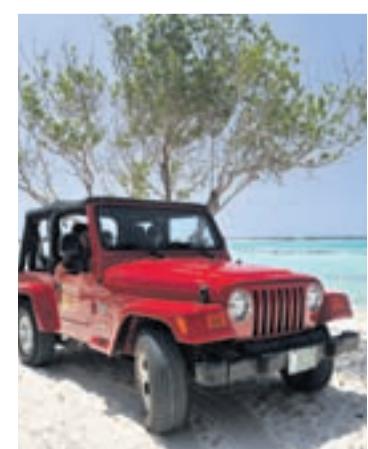
PALM BEACH - Pelican Adventures Tours & Watersports & Pelican Nest Bar & Seafood Grill are all under one roof located at The Pelican Pier in Palm Beach.

We offer Sailing & Snorkeling Cruises, Champagne Brunch Cruises, Sunset & Dinner Cruises, Holy Guacamole Fiesta Cruise, Wet & Wild Jeep tour and our

famous Beach & Cave tour, also a variety of watersports such as wave runners, parasailing, tubing and much more. Our desks are located at Casa del



Mar (pool deck), Playa Linda resort next to the juice bar, Holiday Inn Desk and at the Concierge & Pelican Pier desk located between Holiday Inn hotel & Playa Linda Resort. Pelican Nest Restaurant offers an impressive selection



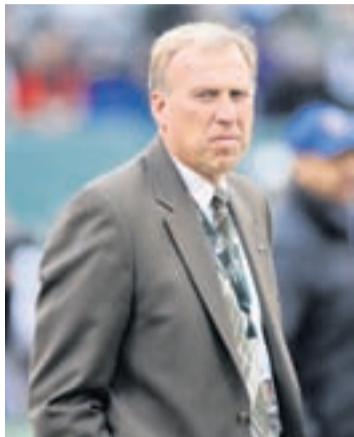
of fresh seafood (caught daily by our own fleet), International dishes and a relaxing atmosphere. Open daily for dinner reservations call 297-586-2259 from 11 am.

Our Captain's Morgan Pier Bar offers a daily happy hour from 4 till 6 pm.

Last but not least our Pizzeria del Mar that offers a variety of pizzas. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



In this Sunday, Dec. 21, 2014, file photo, New York Jets general manager John Idzik stands on the sidelines as his team warms up before an NFL football game against the New England Patriots, in East Rutherford, N.J.

Associated Press

NY Jets fire GM John Idzik, coach Rex Ryan

AP Sports Writer

FLORHAM PARK, New Jersey (AP) — Woody Johnson was tired of all the losing, the four straight seasons without going to the playoffs. So, the New York Jets owner decided to completely clean house. Johnson fired coach Rex Ryan and general manager John Idzik on Monday, one day after completing one of the most disappointing seasons in franchise history.

"We're in the win business, and we're not winning," Johnson said at a jam-packed news conference at the team's facility. "So, I thought this was something I had to do." With the Jets (4-12) sitting home for the postseason for the fourth consecutive year, Johnson chose to start fresh with a new coach and GM — and said the team already contacted the top candidates on his short list. He wouldn't

Continued on Page 20



In this Aug. 15, 2014, file photo, Pennsylvania's Mo'ne Davis delivers in the first inning against Tennessee during a baseball game in United States pool play at the Little League World Series tournament in South Williamsport, Pa.

Associated Press
Page 19

Davis wins AP Female Athlete of Year

AP source: Michigan lands Harbaugh as new coach

By ERIC OLSON
NOAH TRISTER
AP Sports Writers

Former San Francisco 49ers coach Jim Harbaugh has signed a deal to become the new coach at Michigan, a person with knowledge of the discussions told The Associated Press on Monday.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because there was no formal announcement from the school or Harbaugh, who did not return calls or text messages. But not long after Harbaugh arrived at the Detroit Metropolitan Airport on Monday night, Michigan scheduled a Tuesday news conference for a "major" football announcement.

"I think we'll have some

comments tomorrow," Harbaugh told The Michigan Daily, the student newspaper in Ann Arbor.

The 51-year-old Harbaugh coached the 49ers to three straight NFC championship games and San Francisco lost the 2013 Super Bowl to a Baltimore Ravens team coached by his brother, John. After the 49ers slipped to 8-8 this season and missed the playoffs, he parted ways with the team Sunday in what both sides called a mutual decision. A day later, his name was the buzz of the Big Ten.

The idea of the Michigan-Ohio State rivalry spiced up with Harbaugh vs. Urban Meyer harkens to the league's glory days, when Bo Schembechler and Woody Hayes ruled the

conference. "He's basically Michigan royalty right now," said former Wolverines quarterback Denard Robinson, now a Jacksonville Jaguars running back. "He's the man right now. I think he's going to do a great job and help out recruiting. He's had success at every school he went to. I think it's a great fit for Michigan." Big Ten Network analyst and former college coach Gerry DiNardo said Michigan, the only school with more than 900 all-time wins, would be bringing in a "rock star" capable of returning the Wolverines to elite status in a short time. "This gives Michigan a chance to catch up," DiNardo said.

Still, Michigan's new coach



San Francisco 49ers coach Jim Harbaugh walks off the field after the 49ers lost 38-35 in overtime to the San Diego Chargers in an NFL football game in Santa Clara, Calif., Saturday, Dec. 20, 2014.

Associated Press

has his work cut out for him in a Big Ten East Division that's only getting tougher. Meyer is preparing the Buckeyes for this week's semifinal against Alabama in the inaugural College Football Playoff. Michigan State's Mark Dantonio has built a program that has staying power. Penn State's James Franklin is a celebrated recruiter who looks to have the Nittany Lions on the rise.

Under Brady Hoke, Michigan dipped to 5-7 this season and was among only four Big Teams to not earn a bowl bid. The Wolverines were 31-20 in Hoke's four seasons and declined steadily after an 11-2 mark in his first year.

Harbaugh went 58-27 overall as a college coach at San Diego and Stanford, including a 29-21 record in four seasons with the Cardinal. He took over a 1-11 team when he was hired in December 2006 and quickly turned the program back into a winner and bowl contender.

Harbaugh's first Stanford team went 4-8 in a season highlighted by a 24-23 win

over No. 1 Southern California, a game in which the Cardinal was a 41-point underdog. Stanford was 5-7 the following season, then improved to 8-5 and earned a Sun Bowl berth in 2009 - the school's first bowl appearance since 2001. They won the Orange Bowl with quarterback Andrew Luck his final season.

The 49ers hired Harbaugh four days after the bowl, and he went 44-19-1 with two NFC West titles in four seasons.

"I wish him nothing but the best and appreciate everything he did for us," 49ers fullback Bruce Miller said. "Had a great run and wish nothing but good things for him at Michigan." Harbaugh, the starting quarterback for three seasons in the mid-1980s under Schembechler, is now being looked to as the coach who can finally return Michigan to prominence.

"I think it gives the Big Ten great credibility," said Lou Holtz, the former coach and ESPN analyst. "I've always felt the real evaluation of a conference is strength of coaches. □

glitz
casino

New Year's Balloon drop

Celebrate New Year's The Glitz Casino way

100 Balloons filled with Weekend Stay, Cash Prizes!
Dinners, Spa Gift Certificates and Much More...

Entertainment
Starting at 11:00 PM
Free Snack & drinks

Happy Hour at **BUGALOE**

TODAY: 5-6 pm & 10-11pm

SPECIAL PRICES ON Mojito
and local beers: Balashi & ChillLocated at De Palm Pier
between the Radisson Resort and Riu Hotel**BUGALOE**
Beach Bar and Grill

Live Happy Hour Entertainment

T: (+297) 587 2233 | Info@Bugaloe.com
www.Bugaloe.com

Davis wins AP Female Athlete of the Year honors

ROB MAADDI**AP Sports Writer**

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — No one in the sports world had heard of the 2014 Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year until August.

That's when 13-year-old Mo'ne Davis became an instant celebrity as she took the pitching mound in baseball's Little League World Series and mowed down batter after batter, giving "throw like a girl" a whole new meaning.

She was the first girl to win a Little League World Series game, and her performance dazzled fans young and old. Her steely gaze and demeanor on the mound were intimidating, while off-the-field, she shined in interviews. She told admirers that if they thought she was good at baseball, they should see her play basketball. Only in eighth grade, Davis already plays for her school's high school varsity basketball team.

Davis appeared on the cover of Sports Illustrated, has her jersey displayed in baseball's Hall of Fame and was named Sports Kid of the Year by Sports Illustrated Kids.

She met the Obamas at the White House, starred in a Spike Lee-directed car commercial (the NCAA said it wouldn't hurt her eligibility), marched in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade along with her Taney Dragons teammates and presented Pharrell Williams with Soul Train's "Song of the Year" award.

The talented three-sport star — she also plays soccer — and honor student from South Philadelphia handled all the attention with poise, modesty and maturity.

"A lot of adults around me help out, taught me to be respectful, to be calm during everything and not let anything get to you," Davis said after learning of her latest honor.

A vote by U.S. editors and news directors selected Davis as The Associated Press 2014 Female Athlete of the Year. The youngest winner in history, Davis beat out Mt. St. Joseph freshman Lauren Hill — who played her first college basketball game while battling terminal brain cancer — and three-time winner Serena Williams. The selection was announced Monday.

Davis tossed a two-hitter to help Philadelphia beat Nashville 4-0 in the Little League World Series opener for both teams. Davis, the first girl to appear for a U.S. team in South Williamsport since 2004, had eight strikeouts and didn't walk a batter. Her team was eventually eliminated after losing to teams from Las Vegas and Chicago. Davis gave up three runs in the Las Vegas game, and

While others are still talking about her Little League performance, Davis, a point guard, is concentrating on basketball.

"It's making me a lot better, helping me make decisions," Davis said of playing varsity. "In middle school, I can get away with small things. The girls now are a lot taller so I'm working on my jump shot and ball handling a lot."

Steve Bandura, a recreation leader for the Philadelphia Parks and Recreation Department and director of the Anderson Monarchs sports programs, has helped coach Davis since she started playing sports. His son, Scott, was the catcher for Taney. Bandura said Davis has maintained her "natural personality" no matter how many cameras or microphones are in her face.



In this Aug. 15, 2014, file photo, Pennsylvania's Mo'ne Davis delivers in the fifth inning against Tennessee during a baseball game in United States pool play at the Little League World Series tournament in South Williamsport, Pa. Associated Press

could not take the mound against Chicago because of pitch limits. After the tournament, Davis was everywhere.

She threw whiffle balls to Jimmy Fallon on NBC's Tonight Show, threw out the first pitch at Game 4 of the World Series and signed a book deal.

"It's been really fun, got to do a lot of things, meet a lot of cool people," Davis said. "My favorite thing to do was playing in Williamsport or going to the White House. (The Obamas) just seemed like a regular couple, no different from anyone else."

Davis aspires to play for the University of Connecticut and reach the WNBA. She plays midfielder on her soccer team and hopes to play three sports in high school, though she's not sure about baseball.

"I know the boys will be much stronger so that depends," she said. "Hopefully, I can continue playing as long as I can."

Davis isn't just a jock. She excels academically despite such a great demand for her time.

"It's all about time management, how you plan your projects and not waiting until the last minute," she said.

"She's still the same person, still a kid who wants to do kid things," Bandura said. "She has fun meeting celebrities and all that but the bottom line is she loves to play sports, go to school and have fun. The adults make a bigger deal out of it. Her teammates understand she's breaking down barriers and they're proud of her. They've been together so long, it's like she's their sister." Davis knows she has become a role model.

Her message to everyone, especially girls: "Always follow your dreams. If there's something people tell you that you can't do it, go for it." □

Rex Ryan

Continued from Page 17

reveal who they are, but Johnson made it clear he wants a head coach who is a presence in all three aspects of the team — offense, defense and special teams — which was a frequent criticism of the defensive-minded Ryan. He also indicated that the next general manager should have a strong background in personnel, which was regarded as one of Idzik's shortcomings.

"It became pretty apparent during the season as we progressed that the team was not getting better," Johnson said. "It was kind of obvious that we had to make change. It was obvious to me, anyway."

He met with Ryan and Idzik on Monday morning after "extensive thought and reflection" and informed them they would not be returning.

Ryan was 50-52, including



In this Sunday, Dec. 28, 2014, file photo, New York Jets head coach Rex Ryan listens to a question during a news conference following an NFL football game against the Miami Dolphins, in Miami Gardens, Fla.

Associated Press

4-2 in the postseason, in his six seasons with the Jets. His first few years were filled

with guarantees, strong statements and two consecutive trips to the AFC

title game.

"It was a long run and I think he had a tremendous

impact," Johnson said. "He made the team relevant in some respects."

But, in the end, there were not enough wins to back up all the big talk.

"Rex was fully prepared," Johnson said. "He was fine with it."

Ryan met with his players for a final time and showed them a video of highlights of the team, and then thanked them for their efforts.

"I think everybody had the same emotion," left tackle D'Brickashaw Ferguson said. "A feeling of sadness, a feeling of loss."

Idzik lasted just two seasons after replacing the fired Mike Tannenbaum in 2013. Johnson credited Idzik for helping the Jets get out of a tough salary cap situation, but the former GM was heavily criticized this year for questionable draft and free agency decisions.

"That was a tough decision," Johnson said. "Only two years, but I had to make it." □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood! Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"



ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweaver has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words :fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



Winners of Int'l. LUHRS Marina Group Blue Marlin Release Tournament 2009



Catch your own dinner

A charter includes: captain, mate all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included.

You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to www.driftwoodaruba.com

Driftwood Restaurant. This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95. **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 www.driftwoodaruba.com Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.



Pelican Adventures



Celebrating our 28th anniversary with YOU!

SPECIAL OF THE WEEK: Sunset & Dinner Cruise

Includes snacks, open Bar, caribbean music, after 2 hours of Sunset Cruise you will enjoy a 3 course Dinner at our Pelican Nest Restaurant on the Sea, spectacular view, professional service, Freshly made dishes to spoil your senses.



Visit us at Casa del Mar, Playa Linda, Holiday Inn Concierge/lobby desk/ beach huts, RIU Hut between Antilla & Palace Hotel on the beach, or at our own Pelican Pier located between the Holiday Inn & Playa Linda Resort.

For reservations call 587-2302 (Mon-Sun) Or book online at: www.pelican-aruba.com

PRESENT THIS AD AND RECEIVE
\$10 DISCOUNT PER COUPLE

NBA Capsules

Green leads injury-depleted Spurs to win

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Danny Green had 24 points and the injury-depleted San Antonio Spurs beat the Houston Rockets 110-106 on Sunday night, snapping a six-game skid against their intrastate rivals.

Tim Duncan scored 16 points and Manu Ginobili had 15 for San Antonio (19-13), which won for first time in three games.

James Harden had 28 points for Houston (21-8), and Dwight Howard added 24 points and 17 rebounds. The Rockets' newest additions had differing levels of success: Corey Brewer scored 25 points, but Josh Smith finished with five points on 2-of-7 shooting.

Green made four straight free throws in the final minute, helping San Antonio avoid going into overtime for the fourth time in its last six home games.

The Spurs played without Kawhi Leonard (bruised right hand) and Tony Parker (mild strain left hamstring).

MAVERICKS 112, THUNDER

107

DALLAS (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki matched his season high with 30 points for Dallas, and Chandler Parsons added 26.

The Mavericks rallied from seven points down to start the fourth quarter. They were without center Tyson Chandler, a late scratch with back spasms.

The Thunder played their sixth straight game without Kevin Durant because of a sprained right ankle. They fell short in their third chance to reach .500 for the first time after Durant and Russell Westbrook were sidelined by injuries for 14 of the first 16 games. Serge Ibaka led Oklahoma City with a season-high 26 points.

TRAIL BLAZERS 101, KNICKS 79

PORTRLAND, Ore. (AP) — Wesley Matthews had 28 points, including six 3-pointers, and the Trail Blazers beat the short-handed Knicks.

Portland was 16 for 36 from 3-point range. Nicolas Batum had five 3-pointers and 17 points.

It was the eighth straight loss for the Knicks, who had just nine available players to start the game, and then lost Carmelo Anthony for the second half because of a sore left knee. Portland, which led by as many as 27 points, has won eight of its last nine games. Cole Aldrich had 12 points and a career-high 19 rebounds for New York, and Tim Hardaway Jr. scored 17 points.

PISTONS 103, CAVALIERS 80 **CLEVELAND (AP)** — Brandon Jennings scored 25 points, and the Pistons used an 18-0 run in the second quarter to roll past the Cavaliers.

It was Cleveland's second blowout loss at home in less than two weeks. The Cavaliers lost 127-98 to Atlanta on Dec. 17, and the convincing victory for Detroit drew boos from the home crowd.

Andre Drummond had 16 points and 17 rebounds for the Pistons (7-23), who were coming off a 119-109 victory over Indiana on Friday.

Detroit set a season high



San Antonio Spurs guard Danny Green, rear, defends Houston Rockets guard James Harden during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, Dec. 28, 2014, in San Antonio. San Antonio won 110-106.

Associated Press
for made 3-pointers by going 17 for 31 from long range. Kevin Love had 20 points and 10 rebounds for Cleveland, and LeBron James finished with 17 points, 10 boards and seven assists. □



Vancouver Canucks' Chris Tanev, front, and Anaheim Ducks' Devante Smith-Pelly fall to the ice in overtime of an NHL hockey game Sunday, Dec. 28, 2014, in Anaheim, Calif. The Ducks won 2-1.

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California (AP) — Anaheim beat Vancou-

Associated Press

ver 2-1 in overtime on Sunday to open an 11-point lead over the Canucks

Ducks beat Canucks to stretch Pacific lead

and other rivals in the NHL Pacific Division, with Cam Fowler scoring the winner for the Ducks 2:42 into the extra period.

Yannick Weber scored early in the second period for Vancouver and the visitors held that lead until Ducks defenseman Francois Beauchemin tied it in the third period with his first goal of the season.

The two-time defending Pacific Division champions

are 8-0-1 in their past nine games against Vancouver. The Canucks were tied with Anaheim atop the Western Conference standings four weeks ago but have drifted a long way off that pace.

Vancouver had only 14 shots on goal for the game. In the day's other match, Florida scored four goals in the third period to beat Toronto 6-4.

The teams combined for

six goals in the second, but the Panthers controlled the final period.

Brad Boyes scored a tie-breaking power-play goal while Willie Mitchell, Dmitry Kulikov and Scottie Upshall also scored in the third for the Panthers. Jonathan Huberdeau earlier had a goal and an assist for the home team.

James van Riemsdyk had a goal and an assist for the Maple Leafs. □



In this Dec. 28, 2014 photo, Detroit Lions defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh steps on the leg of Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers (12) during the fourth quarter of an NFL football game in Green Bay, Wis.

Associated Press

Lions tackle Suh suspended for NFL playoff game

NEW YORK (AP) —

Ndamukong Suh is in trouble with the NFL again.

The Detroit defensive tackle was suspended for this Sunday's wild-card playoff game against Dallas for a violation of safety-related playing rules against Green Bay in the season finale.

The league announced Monday that Suh was suspended for stepping on Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers' left leg twice, once with each foot. Suh also applied pressure and pushed off Rodgers' unprotected leg with his left foot, violating unnecessary roughness rules, the league said in a statement.

Suh, who will be reinstated next Monday, can appeal the suspension within three days. He can ask for an expedited appeal, which would be heard by Ted Cottrell, a hearing officer employed by the NFL and the players' union. No hearing is scheduled, but one could happen as soon as Tuesday.

Rodgers had an agitated look after the incident, and coach Mike McCarthy said after the game: "There's no place for that. I don't understand it, frankly."

On Monday, McCarthy backed off a bit, saying: "I was hoping this wouldn't go this way. That was a hell of a football game played yesterday, and that's what I really came here to talk about. I'm not here to talk

about behavior (of) players on other teams."

Suh did not speak with reporters at the Lions practice facility.

Lions center Dominic Raiala, coming off his own one-game ban for a similar incident, was enraged by the suspension.

"The play ... he wasn't even looking at (Rodgers)," Raiala said. "He was getting pushed back a little bit. It was ridiculous what Fox did right after it. It was crazy, watching it. I couldn't even listen to those guys after he did it."

"There is no way, at that point in the game, that he did something like that on purpose. No way."

Added teammate Larry Warford: "It's part of what has been happening around here. Obviously, they're going to be stricter on us. That is just a fact of what happened a week before."

"They're obviously a lot stricter with our team," Warford continued, referring to the NFL. "It's something we have to fight through. A little adversity. We'll make it through."

Suh is a repeat offender with a long list of fines and one previous suspension, for two games in 2011 for stepping on the right arm of Packers lineman Evan Dietrich-Smith. Suh has been fined seven times in his career, but this is the first in 2014. □

Buccaneers "earn" first overall draft pick



Tampa Bay Buccaneers tackle Kevin Pamphile (64) reacts on the bench during the final seconds of the team's 23-20 loss to the New Orleans Saints in an NFL football game Sunday, Dec. 28, 2014, in Tampa, Fla.

Associated Press

BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Tampa Bay Buccaneers "earned" the first pick in next spring's NFL draft with their 2-14 record.

In their first season under coach Lovie Smith, the Bucs lost their last six games to secure the top pick over Tennessee, which had the same record under first-year coach Ken Whisenhunt. But Tampa Bay had the easier overall schedule in the weak NFC South, which was won by Carolina with a 7-8-1 record.

Clearly, neither of the coaches who lost in Super Bowls — Smith in Chicago and Whisenhunt in Arizona — had much positive impact in their debut seasons. "My comments last week were, 'We're going to get a good pick,'" Smith said after losing to New Orleans in the finale. "Nothing's really changed. I know we're

in a little bit better of a position, but going into this football game, we were going to have an opportunity to get a pretty good football player. When you're down there, that's one consolation, I guess, from the season we've had."

Tampa Bay last had the top overall spot in 1987 and selected Miami Hurricanes QB Vinny Testaverde. He didn't fare well with the Bucs, but later led the Browns and Jets to the playoffs and spent 21 seasons in the NFL with seven teams.

Rounding out the top five will be Jacksonville and Oakland, both 3-13, and Washington (4-12).

Then come the New York Jets (4-12), Chicago (5-11), Atlanta, the New York Giants and St. Louis, all 6-10. Tennessee actually held the top spot as recently as in Week 16, but the Bucs' dismal division — two

teams in the Titans' AFC South had better records than the winner of the NFC South — turned things around when the season concluded.

So the Titans will go second.

"It can certainly help you, that's one of the things to be excited about," Whisenhunt said. "We're going to get a good player, and we'll have a chance to get a good player with the second-round pick, because that will be like getting another first-round pick."

"Whatever opportunities are available at that point, I think that we're going to look at free agency to help some things, too. It's important, it's always important when you have a pick that high."

The rest of the drafting order, not including playoff teams, will have Minnesota going 11th, with Cleveland 12th and New Orleans 13th; all of them were 7-9. Miami will go 14th and San Francisco 15th; both were 8-8.

Four 9-7 teams did not make the postseason and will draft in this order: Houston, San Diego, Kansas City, Cleveland (from Buffalo). Philadelphia (10-6) will go 20th.

Losers of the wild-card games will select 21st-24th. Losers in the division round get the 25th-28th positions. Teams that fall in the conference championships will go 29th and 30th. The Super Bowl winner, regardless of regular season record, picks 32nd and last. □

Bell's uncertain status leaves Steelers vulnerable

WILL GRAVES

AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Pittsburgh Steelers may have to start the playoffs without running back Le'Veon Bell. Bell hyperextended his right knee in the third quarter of Sunday night's win over

Cincinnati and did not return. Coach Mike Tomlin says Bell's knee did not sustain any major structural damage, but said it is unclear if Bell will be available when the Steelers host Baltimore in the wild-card round on Saturday.

If Bell can't play, the running back duties will fall to rookies Josh Harris and Dri Archer. The two ran for a combined 56 yards during the season. Harris had a 60-yard run against the Bengals wiped out due to a penalty. □

Residents alarmed as Coast Guard changes foghorns

By PATRICK WHITTLE

Associated Press

YORK, Maine (AP) -- For Tom Bradbury and his neighbors, the town foghorn is more than just a familiar, wistful noise - it represents something greater, like peace itself.

"There's a sense that someone is on guard, watching over those who are on the water," Bradbury said. "We find it a very pleasing, comforting sound."

That's why Bradbury, of Kennebunkport, and hundreds of New Englanders are sounding the alarm over a Coast Guard plan to convert old-style foghorns to newer technology. The Coast Guard is converting Maine and New Hampshire foghorns that are automated to activate in the presence of fog. It says newer technology activated by mariners via marine radios - which tends to result in fewer of the foghorns' familiar blasts - is safer and more cost effective.

The move has proved unpopular in some Maine communities, and the Coast Guard will soon start a yearlong campaign to inform the public about the conversions. Coast Guard officials said its plan is for the conversions to eventually leave Maine with no more of the old-time foghorn activation systems.

So far the Coast Guard has changed seven foghorns and plans to convert 18 more. The converted foghorns range from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to Maine's Mistake Island, about 50 miles from Canada. The lights slated for conversion are all along the coast.

The Coast Guard hopes to convert the remaining foghorns by the end of 2015, and representatives will spend the year visiting towns along the Maine coast talking to residents about the switch, said Bob Albert, chief warrant officer.

Albert said the conversions replace outdated, unserviceable 1970s technology. He added that the Coast Guard has heard complaints from residents



In this Monday, Dec. 22, 2014 photo, foghorns that were retired long ago remain aimed towards the sea at Portland Head Light in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. The Coast Guard is rethinking its plan to install radio-triggered foghorns at all lighthouses after receiving a barrage of complaints.

Associated Press

who prefer the older models, but the new system makes it much easier for rescuers to assist mariners, if needed.

"They've indicated their preference to be able to hear the signal to add to the ambiance of living on the coast," Albert said. "Our response to that is, unfortunately, the Coast Guard does not pay for sound signals to add to that."

Opponents of the change-over, including longtime York summer resident Janet Dillon, said the older activation systems were much more frequent, which leaves residents wondering if the newer models are working at all. Dillon collected about 350 signatures from residents who opposed the switch after it happened in June. Dillon said opinions about the old foghorn often divided people in York, with longer-established residents firmly standing by their love of the horn's tone, which she called "that haunting sound that brings me back to the days when sailors were out there hoping for safety." That sense of com-

munity is gone now, she said.

"There were some people that live in the bigger houses - we call them McMansions - who didn't like the sound of it," Dillon said. "But you know it was there a long time before they were." The conversions cost \$800 to \$1,000 per foghorn, said Matthew Stuck, head of waterways management for the 1st Coast Guard District. He added that the price of converting is "far less expensive than maintenance of a system that the Coast Guard no longer supports." In Kennebunkport, Bradbury - who directs the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust, which owns the Goat Island Light where the foghorn is located - said support for the old horn is deep. The Coast Guard changed it to the newer model over the summer, then changed it back after community backlash, but intends to switch it over again.□

Sony: PlayStation back online after 3-day outage



This March 8, 2012 file photo shows attendees walking past the Sony PlayStation PS Vita console on display in the Sony PlayStation booth at the Game Developers Conference in San Francisco.

Associated Press

The Associated Press Sony says its PlayStation Network is back online after three days of disruptions that began on Christmas. A group of hackers called Lizard Squad — or some-

tinue to cause problems for customers seeking to play their favorite games, the company said Sunday. A group of hackers called Lizard Squad — or some-

one claiming to speak for it — took credit for the disruptions.

In a blog post Saturday night saying service had been restored.□

Pinterest says opening its boards to advertising

MIKE ISAAC

© 2014 New York Times

A quick glance at the digital scrapbook Pinterest makes it seem like the anti-Facebook. It has no stream filled with friends' faces and baby pictures, but rather a sprawling, colorful grid of recipes, photographs of clothes and a shopping list of presents to buy for loved ones. Yet soon some of the slick-looking photos on its site may be advertisements from the world's biggest consumer brands - ads, Pin-

terest hopes, users actually want to see.

On New Year's Day, the company plans to start selling ads on the site to any marketer, sounding the call that Pinterest is open for business and that it wants to compete for ad dollars with the likes of Google, Twitter and Facebook. It is the first major step for Pinterest toward building a scalable business. And although its major competitors have been pursuing advertising for years, Pinterest says its strength

stems from the very nature of its service, in which users create collections of items they want or gather information about places they want to go - so-called aspirational content.

"On Facebook, you think about friends, and on Twitter you think about news," said Joanne Bradford, Pinterest's head of partnerships, who is responsible for building the company's business.

"On Pinterest, you think about what you want to do, where you want to go,

what you want to buy."

Introduced to a handful of advertising partners in a limited test in June, the new ads look much like the other content on Pinterest. Marketers pay to create a Promoted Pin ad, and target it to certain groups of people based on their location, sex and the type of topic they have shown interest in.

Pinterest says early results are promising. Brand advertisers see Promoted Pins "re-pinned," or shared by users, an average of 11

times per advertisement. That means that every ad will be seen, on average, by 30 percent more people than the brand paid to show it to because users have shared the ad with friends.

"We're aiming for the holy grail here: trying to provide the right content to the right people, at the right time," said Dana Shank, an associate director at Kraft Foods. "To be on a platform where people are actively looking for that content? That's invaluable to us." □

Stocks mostly gain despite new fears over Greece

BERNARD CONDON

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks inched mostly higher in light trading on Monday as investors shrugged off falling energy prices, a plunging Russian ruble and fears that Greece could renege on its bailout. Stocks wavered throughout the day, with the Dow Jones industrial average moving between gains and losses several times. In the end the blue-chip index closed down slightly, but other major indexes recorded tiny gains.

"Most of the bad news came from overseas ... and that makes the U.S. market more attractive," said Jack Ablin, chief investment officer at BMO Private Bank. "Investors are shifting money from overseas."

The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 1.80 points, or



Traders work on the floor at the New York Stock Exchange, in New York. U.S. stocks inched mostly higher in light trading on Monday as investors shrugged off falling energy prices, a plunging Russian ruble and fears that Greece could renege on its bailout.

(AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

0.1 percent, to 2,090.57. The Dow fell 15.48 points, or 0.1 percent, to 18,038.23. The Nasdaq composite rose 0.05 points to 4,806.91

With little economic or company developments in the U.S., investors focused on news that Greece will have to call snap elec-

tions next month that could bring more economic turmoil to the country. The opposition Syriza party, which is against terms of the international bailout of the country, is leading in the polls.

The Athens exchange closed with a loss of 4 percent after falling as much as 11 percent earlier. Several European markets also slumped, with Italy's benchmark index losing 1.1 percent.

In Russia, the ruble fell 8 percent against the U.S. dollar after a rally last week. Russian monetary officials have made stabilizing the currency a priority amid slumping oil revenues and unease about the country's economic outlook. Despite the troubles abroad developing for several weeks now, U.S. stocks have been rising on opti-

mism over the U.S. economy.

Employers are on track to hire nearly 3 million workers this year, the most since the dot-com boom year of 1999. The unemployment rate has dropped to 5.8 percent, down about a percentage point since the start of the year. And the U.S. economy grew at an annualized rate of 5 percent in the July-September quarter, the fastest in 11 years.

On Monday, six of 10 industry sectors in the S&P 500 rose, led by a 1.1 percent gain in utilities.

Trading was light ahead of the New Year's holiday later this week. Volume was about two-thirds of the recent average on the New York Stock Exchange. John Manley, chief equity strategist at Wells Fargo Fund Management. □

Shares drop for AirAsia after plane disappears

NEIL GOUGH

© 2014 New York Times

HONG KONG - Shares in AirAsia fell 8.5 percent in Kuala Lumpur on Monday, a day after the Malaysian airline said one of its planes went missing with 162 people on board. The sell-off came as investors reacted to news that a Singapore-bound Airbus A320-200 operated by the airline's Indonesian unit had disappeared from radar screens about 40 minutes after

leaving the Indonesian city of Surabaya around 5:30 a.m. Sunday. The episode appeared to be the first major crisis for AirAsia, which is based in Malaysia and is one of Asia's biggest and fastest-growing budget carriers.

Shares in AirAsia X, a sister budget carrier that operates long-haul flights, also fell Monday, closing 7.3 percent lower in Kuala Lumpur. The disappearance of the plane, Indonesia AirAsia

Flight 8501, drew comparisons to a Boeing 777 operated by Malaysia Airlines that disappeared this year with 239 people onboard. That plane, Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, was bound for Beijing from Kuala Lumpur but turned abruptly off course in the early hours of March 8, and is now believed by investigators to have crashed somewhere in the remote southern Indian Ocean west of Australia. Malaysia Airlines, the

Southeast Asia nation's state-owned flag carrier, said in August it would accept a government bailout of nearly \$2 billion and would cut thousands of jobs following the loss of Flight 370 and the downing of another plane, Flight 17, over eastern Ukraine in July. But Malaysia Airlines and its parent company, Malaysia Airline System, were struggling with growing losses and rising debt levels well before losing two of its air-

planes this year. Challenges to Malaysia Airlines included increased competition from budget carriers; AirAsia and its vastly different business model proved to be a fierce competitor. AirAsia started in 2001, when the Malaysian entrepreneur Tony Fernandes, a former music company executive, acquired a small, state-owned airline out of bankruptcy and re-established it as a privately owned budget carrier. □

Is Vacation Over?



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
© 2014 New York Times

More than we may realize, the world has been riding a lucky streak since the global financial meltdown in 2008. How so? The years between 2008 and late 2013 were - relatively speaking - a rather benign period of big power politics and geopolitics. This allowed the major economic powers - the United States, the European Union, China, India, Russia, Brazil and Japan - to focus almost exclusively on economic rehabilitation. But now there are strong indications that our vacation from geo-instability is over. The last time the world witnessed such a steep and sustained drop in oil prices - from 1986 to 1999 - it had some profound political consequences for oil-dependent states and those who depended on their largesse. The Soviet empire collapsed; Iran elected a reformist president; Iraq invaded Kuwait; and Yasser Arafat, having lost his Soviet backer and Arab bankers, recognized Israel - to name but a few. Admittedly, other factors were involved in all these events. But, in each case, steep drops in direct or indirect oil revenues played a big role. If today's falloff in oil prices is sustained, we'll also be in for a lot of surprises. Some will have happy endings. Cuba's decision to bury the hatchet with America had to have been spurred in part by Havana's fears of losing some or all of the 100,000 barrels of subsidized oil a day it gets from the now cash-strapped Venezuela. Others could be very destabilizing. Today's world is much more tightly interconnected and interdependent than in the last oil price drop-off, which was before the spread of the Internet. And today's world has so many more actors - superpowers and superempowered individuals and hackers who can destabilize companies and countries with cyberweapons. See dictionary for "Sony" and "North Korea."

When I hear President Vladimir Putin of Russia bragging that lower oil revenues won't affect the Russian people because they are stoic - look what they tolerated in World War II - my reaction is: "Mr. Putin, that was before there was a significant urban middle class in Russia, one you helped to build with trickle-down oil and gas revenues." A lot more Russians today have gotten used to traveling abroad, owning a car (note Moscow's traffic jams), consuming Western goods and seeing how the rest of the world lives. Let's see how stoic they are today. Russia's former Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin was quoted by The Financial Times on Monday as saying, "There will

be a fall in living standards. It will be painful. Protest activity will increase."

The Western sanctions on Putin's banks, combined with the sudden sharp drop in oil prices and capital flight also triggered by the sanctions, mean that Russia has a dangerous gap between the funds flowing into its economy and what it needs to send out to pay its debts and finance its imports. Putin can't relieve the pressure without a lifting of Western sanctions. That would require him to reverse his seizure of Crimea and intervention in Ukraine. If Putin admits his Ukraine adventure was a mistake, he will look incredibly foolish and the long knives will be out for him in the Kremlin. If he doesn't back down, Russians will pay a huge price. Either way, that system will be stressed with unpredictable spillovers on the global economy. Remember: Russia's 1998 economic collapse - also triggered by low oil prices and the moratorium it declared on payments to foreign debtors - helped to sink the giant U.S. hedge fund Long-Term Capital Management, sparking a near meltdown on Wall Street.

A prolonged drop in oil prices will impact Algeria, Iran and Arab Gulf states, where aging regimes have used high oil prices to increase government salaries to buy quiet from their people during the Arab Spring. Also, in an age when machines and software are ensuring that average is over for workers in developed countries, and everyone needs to be upgrading their skills, what happens to the developing Arab states and Iran, who have used oil money to mask their deficits in knowledge, education and women's empowerment? Egypt's military-led government is highly in need of Arab oil money to get through its crisis. A bit of good news: The Islamic State, which depends on oil smuggling, will fail at governing even faster than it already has.

Meanwhile, Turkey's increasingly tyrannical president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who has been arresting domestic opponents, is looking like "Vladimir Putin Jr." Erdogan is a tragic figure because he did much to build Turkey's economy into a powerhouse. But, today, according to The Financial Times, Turkey now "needs more than \$200 billion of foreign financing a year, more than a quarter of gross domestic product, to maintain its current level of growth." There will be less Arab and Russian oil money for that and, last week, with Erdogan being criticized by the European Union (a big source of investment income) for arresting his opponents, the Turkish lira hit a low against the dollar. Watch that space.

High oil prices covered many sins and fostered many sins. If they stay low again for long, a lot of leaders will have to pay retail for their crazy politics, not wholesale. The political and geopolitical fallouts will be varied - good and bad - but fallout aplenty there will be. □



The Pope, Beyoncé and Me



FRANK BRUNI
© 2014 New York Times

There was a Christmas Eve a little more than a decade ago when I did something that was, for me, rare, at least on a holiday typically spent in full-party mode, with booze, food, family and friends. I went to church.

No one had died. No one was getting married or baptized. This visit was entirely volitional - and, I told myself, ornamental, which was true to a point.

The church, you see, was St. Peter's Basilica. I was The Times' correspondent in Rome. And because I covered the Vatican, I had dibs on prime seats relatively close to the altar. Forgive the following mixture of profane and sacred, but you don't have to be a Beyoncé devotee to say a quick yes to free tickets in the front rows. You go for the pageant and the privilege.

Pope John Paul II presided over the Mass, as best he could. He struggled to form coherent words, a man disintegrating before the world's eyes, month by painful month. Many of us in the press corps who kept tabs on him and trailed him - to Guatemala, to Croatia, to Poland - were essentially on a deathwatch.

And some of us occasionally wondered if that vigil extended beyond him, to the Roman

Catholic Church itself, and if he were both man and metaphor. Especially in Western Europe and the United States, the church was sliding into a sort of obsolescence.

It often resisted engagement with modernity. It denounced sin in the world while indulging it in the priesthood. And it spoke with a censoriousness that seemed antithetical to Christianity.

After John Paul came Benedict; little changed. More and more of the Catholics I knew located their faith as far outside of the Vatican as they could.

Now there's Francis. And things are different. Not different enough, not by a long shot. The church remains wrong on women and wrong on gays, and I've noted repeatedly the shameful discrepancy between Francis' kind words and the unkind firings of lesbian and gay employees by Catholic institutions in the United States.

But almost two years into his papacy, it's impossible to deny the revolutionary freshness of his posture: humble, receptive, even casual. The pomp is gone and, with it, the air of thundering judgment.

If the rules haven't been rewritten, they seem less like bludgeons than in the past.

Francis doesn't hold himself high, an autocrat with all the answers. He crouches to a level where questions can be asked, conversations broached, disagreements articulated.

He insists that other church leaders lower themselves as well, and used a traditional Christmas address on Monday not to chide the flock for its transgressions but to remind the shepherds of theirs. He accused some of the cardinals, bishops and priests in the upper echelons of the church bureaucracy of straying so forgetfully from their true mission and ministry that they were afflicted with a kind of "spiritual Alzheimer's."

He said that they had fallen prey to the "pathology of power" and needed to beware the "terrorism of gossip." All in all, the Vatican as described by Francis sounded like an Aaron Spelling drama, although with looser-fitting clothes, odder hats and lower Nielsen ratings.

By taking the church out of the clouds, he's putting it into the fray. All accounts of the recent rapprochement between the United States and Cuba cast Francis as a key player, and that's more than a diplomatic victory. It's an assertion of the church's sustained relevance.

He's also putting the church within reach of those who would rather find a place for it in their lives than have to figure out a life without it. They are many.

I've never been able to believe in one dogma, one institution, as a possible repository for all truth and as a compass trumping any other. And I've been troubled by the frequency with which individual religions divide rather than unite. The Catholic Church has certainly been guilty of this.

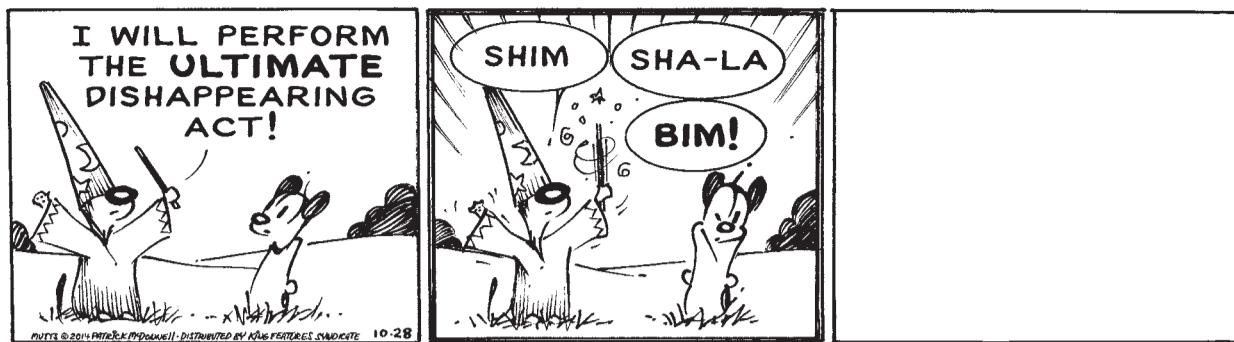
But it has also done, and continues to do, enormous good. Its soldiers are present at almost every humanitarian crisis, their courage and caring inextricable from the best strands of the faith.

That faith provides many pilgrims with a harbor they can't find elsewhere. They look to it not necessarily for a precise code of conduct but for a crucial inspiration to be less selfish, more charitable. It gives them a sorely needed peace, so long as they don't feel shamed away.

By not shoving, Francis is serving them well. By not shouting, he's being heard.

In St. Peter's this Christmas Eve, he was on center stage. Except he wasn't, in another sense, because he's redefined his role. If I had been in the pews once again, it wouldn't have been to savor the spectacle. It would have been to see the man. □

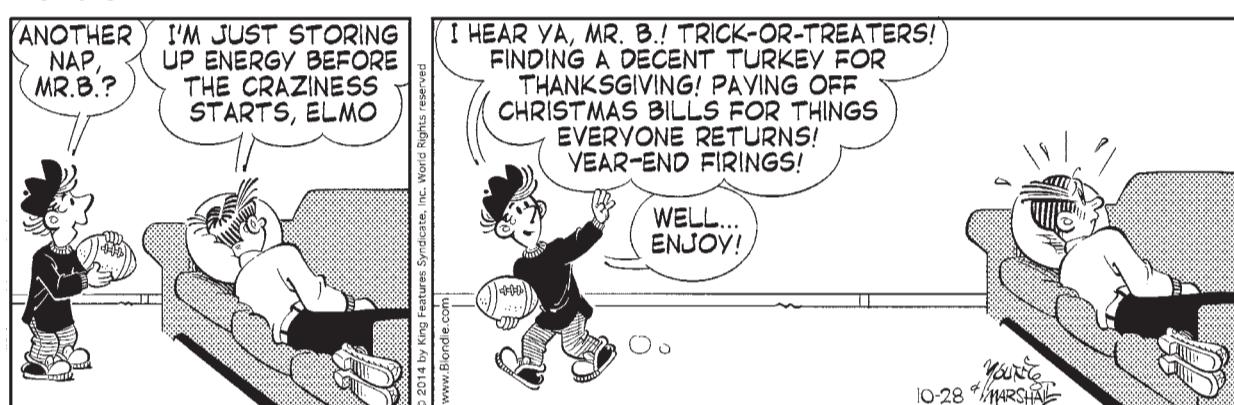
Mutts



6 Chix



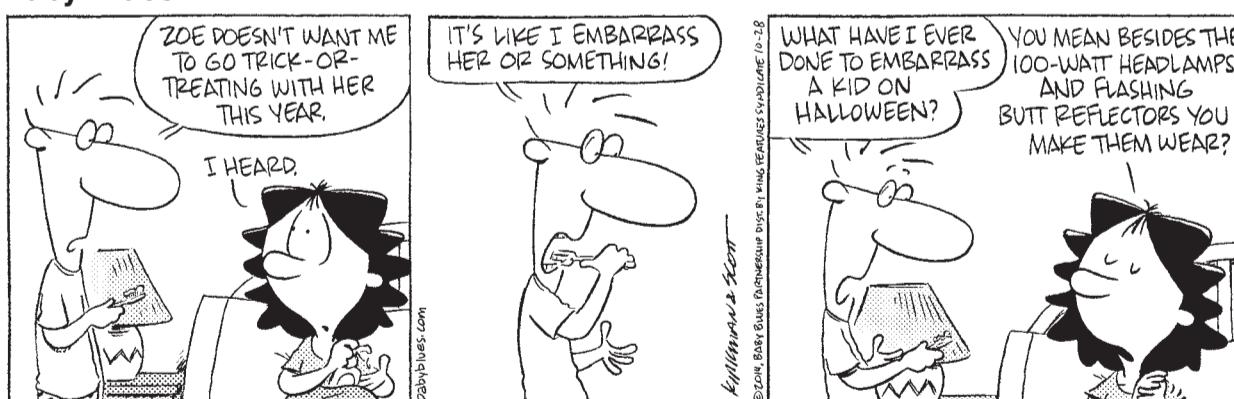
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	5	7	2		8			
			1	3		2		
2			4			1		
6				7	8			
		7			1			
5	4					6		
	2			1			7	
4		1	8					
	3	4		6	9			

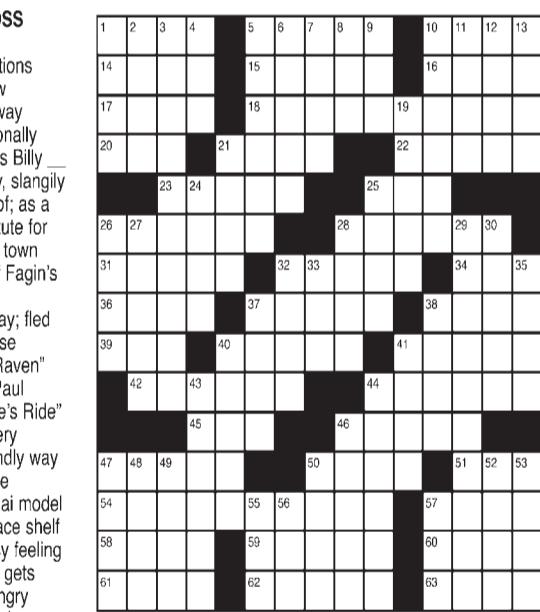
Difficulty Level ★★

10/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

7	4	1	3	5	6	9	2	8
3	6	9	2	8	7	5	1	4
2	8	5	9	1	4	3	6	7
5	7	6	8	3	2	1	4	9
1	9	2	7	4	5	6	8	3
8	3	4	1	6	9	7	5	2
9	1	8	5	2	3	4	7	6
6	5	7	4	9	8	2	3	1
4	2	3	6	7	1	8	9	5

Yesterday's puzzle answer



ACROSS

- Goals; aspirations
- Narrow waterway
- Additionally
- Music's Billy
- Money, slangily
- In ___ of; as a substitute for
- Out of town
- Any of Fagin's boys
- away; fled
- Disguise
- "The Raven" and "Paul Revere's Ride"
- In a very unfriendly way
- Acquire
- Hyundai model
- Fireplace shelf
- Uneasy feeling
- ___ off; gets less angry
- Car fuel
- TKO declaimers
- Group leader
- Carry
- Debtor's note
- Outlaw ___ Starr
- Mario Andretti or Jeff Gordon
- Show off
- Excellent
- Recline
- Gloss
- "This too ___ pass"
- ___ up; bound
- Afternoon hour
- Up until now
- Hold tightly
- Fighting force
- Did an electrician's job
- Two cups
- Clutter
- Blackish wood
- Highest cards
- Apple pie à la
- Conceited
- Procrastinator's word
- Small religious group
- Extra virgin olive ___
- Kosovo native
- Actor Hackman
- Record
- Constructed
- Regretted
- Narrow streets
- Actress Ally ___
- Ambulance's blaring device
- Con game
- In this place
- Upper limbs
- Spanish bull
- Chablis or rosé
- for; selects
- Have debts
- White lie
- Transcript avg.

Monday's Puzzle Solved

S	A	F	E	R	S	L	A	M	I	T	S	A
A	W	A	R	E	I	O	T	A	L	A	I	D
F	A	T	A	L	G	O	E	S	L	I	E	D
E	Y	E	S	I	G	T	C	R	I	N	G	E
S	P	A	R	E	S	R	A	T	O	M	U	N
N	A	B	D	E	I	T	N	I	C	H	E	C
A	I	L	S	S	I	T	E	S	E	A	L	C
G	L	E	A	M	P	E	S	T	D	I	M	D
M	O	P	E	S	O	T	T	E	O	T	T	R
A	L	T	E	R	D	R	O	A	R	O	R	A
R	E	I	N	E	D	B	U	L	L	E	T	I
D	O	M	E	D	R	A	B	E	M	O	T	E
O	N	E	S	L	O	B	E	S	O	F	I	A
R	E	D	S	E	W	E	S	T	R	U	S	T

©2014 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All Rights Reserved. 10/28/14

Cuban dissidents

Continued from Page 12

Cuba's government has long narrowly defined the bounds of acceptable speech, accusing many dissidents of being as agents of the U.S. government or right-wing exile groups, and subjecting them to surveillance, temporary detention and harassment. Advocates of a softer line usually receive less harsh treatment. Reform-minded Cubans have already begun testing the boundaries of free speech and association under the new relationship. Expatriate artist Tania Bruguera returned to Cuba Friday to organize a pro-reform performance piece Tuesday in the Plaza of the Revolution, the sym-

bolic center of the Cuban government.

Bruguera was meeting with government officials Monday to request permission for the event. But Bruguera has said she will go ahead even without it, setting up a potential confrontation between young backers of the event and government supporters who consider it an affront to revolutionary values. Pro-government bloggers have been attacking Bruguera on blogs and Twitter since her arrival. Around midday Monday, Cuban cellphones received mysterious messages from a Florida area code offering cheap beer to those at the plaza around the time of Bruguera's event, which will feature an open microphone for anyone wanting to discuss their complaints and aspirations for Cuba's future. □

Time Share Resale's La Cabana BRC studio week #52 Room #422 B Pool/Ocean View Saturday check in Price: \$7500 More Info call: 005999-518-2984 info@arubatimettravel.com www.arubatimettravel.com

Do you want to sell your Time-share in Aruba Let us just do it for you call: 005999-518-2984 info@arubatimettravel.com www.arubatimettravel.com 30 Years Experience in the business

Time Share Resale's La Cabana BRC Studio weekl #52 Room #422 B pool/ocean view Saturday check in Price \$7,500 call: 005999-518-2984 info@arubatimettravel.com www.arubatimettravel.com

211216

Time Share Resale's Renaissance Suites 1 bedroom week #51 Room #2542 Harbor Ocean View 1 bedroom week #51 Room #2353 Ocean View Price \$10,000 each call: 005999-518-2984 info@arubatimettravel.com www.arubatimettravel.com

211216

TODAY

BONDIA ARUBA

How to reach us!

We are the #1 Rental Timeshare agent for Aruba!

We also RENT Aruba weeks for owners. Contact us to BUY, SELL or RENT any timeshare property.

**888-888-2204 Ext 111
321-206-6293 Ext 111
321-250-7164 Fax**

FaxWebsite: www.concierge-realty.com

Classifieds

DOCTOR ON DUTY
Oranjestad



Dr. Mungra

EMERGENCIA 911



POLIS	100
POLIS	581-1100
ORANJESTAD	582-4000
NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
AMBULANCE	584-5050

PHARMACY

Oranjestad: Sta. Anna Tel: 586-8181
San Nicolas: Seroe Preto Tel: 584-4833

INFORMATION	118
SETAR	582-2116
TAXI	582-5900
TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

CRUISESHIP

December 30



Silver Cloud

Norwegian Pearl

Aruba Aiport	524-2424
American Airline	582-2700
Avianca	588-0059
Dutch Antilles	588-1900
Insel Air	588-9314
Jet Blue	588-2244
Spirit Airlines	582-7117
Tiara Air	588-4272
Venezolana	583-7674

FOUNDATION

FELLOWSHIP CLINIC

Tel: 584-6440
Alcoholism & Drug Addiction,
Anonymity guaranteed

FUNDACION

Anti-Droga

Aruba
(FADA) Tel: 583-2999

FUNDACION

Respetami

Tel: 582-4433

Diabetic Foundation
Arubano

Tel: 583-3808

Narcotics Anonymous

Tel: 583-8989

Foundation Amor
pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3345 / 586-6976

Women in Difficulties
Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

Bloodbank Aruba

Tel: 587-0002

TIMESHARE FOR SALE

RENAISSANCE

Week room price

1+2	517	\$19,000
3 or 4	120	\$7,000
10	137	\$9,000
14	348	\$11,500
8	561	\$9,000
13	501	\$9,000
14	540	\$5,000
14	349	\$11,000
10	521	\$8,500
9	135	\$9,000

Contact Brian Cell: 593-0200

vr.realty@mac.com

211215

DIVI PHOENIX-WK 52

Beach front Villa/ \$20K

2 B&B, 3 rm balcony
Rm 306/ 561-736-9873
barnett.bernie@yahoo.com

211028

ASSOCIATED REALTORS

For Sale

Brand new family house situated in Alto Vista/ Noord with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully fenced, for US\$202,000. Call Mito to 593-6318 for more information

211213

ASSOCIATED REALTORS

For Sale

Brand new family house situated in Seroe Pita / Paradera with ocean view with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms for US\$278,000, possibility for owner's financing. Call Mito to 593-6318 for more information

211213

ASSOCIATED REALTORS

For Sale

Property land in Moko Residence of 600 m2 in an upscale and quiet area, only minutes from the beaches for \$78,000 Call Mito to 593-6318 for more information

211213

Do you want to sell your

Time-share in Aruba

Let us just do it for you, call: 005999-518-2984 info@arubatimettravel.com 30 years experience in the business

211216



Denmark claims North Pole via Greenland ridge link

JAN M. OLSEN

Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark

(AP) — Scientific data shows Greenland's continental shelf is connected to a ridge beneath the Arctic Ocean, giving Danes a claim to the North Pole and any potential energy resources beneath it, Denmark's foreign minister said.

Foreign Minister Martin Lidegaard said Denmark will deliver a claim on Monday to a United Nations panel in New York that will eventually decide control of the area, which Russia and Canada are also coveting.

The five Arctic countries — the United States, Russia, Norway, Canada and Denmark — all have areas surrounding the North Pole, but only Canada and Russia had indicated an interest in it before Denmark's claim.

Lidegaard told the AP that the Arctic nations so far "have stuck to the rules of the game" and he hoped they would continue to do so.

In 2008, the five pledged



This 2014 photo provided by NOAA shows the Arctic ice coverage. Earth's icy northern region lost more of its signature whiteness that reflects the sun's heat.

that control of the North Pole region would be decided in an orderly settle-

ment in the framework of the United Nations, and possible overlapping claims

would be dealt with bilaterally.

Interest in the Arctic is intensifying as global warming shrinks the polar ice, opening up possible resource development and new shipping lanes.

The area is believed to hold an estimated 13 percent of the world's undiscovered oil and 30 percent of its untapped gas.

Lidegaard said he expects no quick decisions, with other countries also sending in claims.

"This is a historical milestone for Denmark and many others as the area has an impact on the lives of lots of people. After the U.N. panel had taken a decision based on scientific data, comes a political process," Lidegaard told The Associated Press in an interview on Friday. "I expect this to take some time. An answer will

come in a few decades."

Between 2007 and 2012, Danish scientists with colleagues from Canada, Sweden and Russia surveyed a 2,000-kilometer- (1,240-mile-)long underwater mountain range that runs north of Siberia concluding that Greenland, a sparsely populated huge island that is a semi-autonomous Danish territory, is geologically attached to the ridge.

That prompted Danes to claim the right to exploit an area of 895,000 square kilometers (345,600 square miles).

"The Lomonosov ridge is the natural extension of the Greenland shelf," said Christian Marcussen, a senior geophysicist with the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland. "Coincidentally, the North Pole which is a tiny, tiny abstract spot lies in the area." □

Great white shark bites off Central California

LOS OSOS, California (AP) — A man in his 50s surfing off the Central California coast survived an attack Sunday by a juvenile great white shark, state officials said.

The man sustained minor injuries and was able to paddle himself to shore, Supervising State Park Ranger Robert Colligan said. The 11:30 a.m. attack happened at the Sand Spit Beach in Montana De Oro State Park just west of San Luis Obispo.

The man who was surfing

with a friend was one of several people in the water, Colligan said.

"From what eyewitnesses said, the shark came up from underneath and hit him," said Colligan, adding that witnesses described the shark as being 8 to 10 feet (2.4 to 3 meters) long. The unidentified man who lives in the San Luis Obispo area was bitten on the right hip. A medic who happened to be visiting the beach on his day off treated the injury until more help arrived, Colligan said.

The man was flown to a local hospital for treatment.

The beach remained open, but signs will be posted for three days warning the public of the attack, Colligan said.

Sharks are native to the area, and Colligan said that they are spotted several times a year. He added that attacks like this are rare. A woman swimming with seals was killed by a shark in 2003 about 10 miles (16 kilometers) south of the site of the most recent attack, Colligan said. □

How 'The Interview's' VOD grosses could change the game

LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sony appears to have a win-win with "The Interview." Not only did the studio score a moral victory by releasing the film in the face of hacker threats, the movie made at least \$15 million from more than 2 million digital rentals and purchases in its first four days.

On Friday, it seemed unlikely we'd ever know if the simultaneous — or "day and date" — strategy paid off. Now, it's tempting to suggest this may be the start of a brave new world of distribution. Add in the \$2.8 million from "The Interview's" limited theatrical release and things aren't looking so bleak for the Seth Rogen-James Franco R-rated comedy.

But the story is far from over and many are divided about its outcome. For some, "The Interview's" video-on-demand revenue signals a revolution.

"It's a huge number and it's one that is probably making the other studios salivate," said Jeff Bock, a senior box office analyst for Exhibitor Relations. "Now there is something to put on the bulletin board that says, 'Yes, VOD is definitely a viable option.'"

But one might also post on the bulletin board that it's standard industry practice not to release VOD figures. That's why the pub-

lic only hears about them when they're good. For instance, 2011's "Bridesmaids," which had already been released theatrically, made \$24 million from VOD in four months, allowing Universal to declare it the most popular VOD release of all time. But how many

have come far closer to paying off "The Interview's" \$40 million production budget and roughly \$10 million marketing cost.

Historically, the movies that have prospered with a simultaneous theatrical and VOD release have been the ones with the smaller

another \$5 million from VOD. Magnolia, IFC and Radius-TWC have all had similar success stories.

On the other hand, the major studios haven't had the option to even test day-and-date strategies because it would jeopardize the 90-day release

started pursuing digital options after the major theater chains dropped the film following hacker threats to blow up theaters. In addition, many exceptional conditions factored into "The Interview's" first weekend. It became an unlikely event movie, and seeing "The Interview" was akin to asserting one's freedom of speech. That's buzz you can't buy.

"We don't want to be told what we can and cannot watch," said Rentrak's senior media analyst Paul Dergarabedian.

That also applies to underage teen audiences, who were suddenly able to easily and affordably access an R-rated movie.

Bock thinks that even when the extraordinary, awareness-boosting events surrounding "The Interview" are taken into account, the film's hybrid opening still has the potential to change everything, even if it takes years.

"The truth is, the VOD obliterated the theatrical," said Bock. "When you think about what the real future of distributing films is, it's got to be as easy as one click. If that's as quickly as you can get money from people, well, the studios are going to listen. It's just economics."

Others, like Dergarabedian, believe the old model will prevail, but with VOD growth. □



This photo released by Sony - Columbia Pictures shows, James Franco, center left, as Dave, and Seth Rogen, center right, as Aaron, in Columbia Pictures' "The Interview." Associated Press

VOD bombs have there been?

Also, if Sony hadn't been hacked and this film wasn't pushed to the center of a national conversation, it could have easily made \$20 million to \$25 million on opening weekend — not unlike "Pineapple Express," a similarly raunchy R-rated comedy starring Rogen and Franco. This would

budgets, destined for art houses and independent theater chains.

For example, J.C. Chandor's Wall Street thriller "Margin Call," a \$3.5 million movie that Lionsgate and Roadside Attractions acquired for \$1 million, was released in theaters and on demand in the fall of 2011 and picked up around \$5.4 million from theatrical and

window required by big exhibitor chains. In 2011, Universal tried to release their Ben Stiller comedy "Tower Heist" on VOD for \$59.99 just three weeks after its theatrical opening, but theater owners balked and chains like Cinemark threatened to cancel their showings. Universal ended up scrapping the plan.

Sony, meanwhile, only

Egypt: Biblical epic 'Exodus' banned over errors

SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt on Sunday said it banned Ridley Scott's biblical epic "Exodus: Gods & Kings" because the Hollywood blockbuster distorts Egypt's history and presents a "racist" image of Jews.

The Culture Ministry explained its decision for the first time in a statement issued a few days after the ban was announced. It said the film put forth a reading of Egypt's history that is at odds with the story of Moses told by the world's monotheistic religions. Egypt is a conserva-

tive country with a Muslim majority and a sizable Christian minority.

Censors objected to the "intentional gross historical fallacies that offend Egypt and its pharaonic ancient history in yet another attempt to Judaize Egyptian civilization, which confirms the international Zionist fingerprints all over the film," the statement said.

The ministry said the movie inaccurately depicts ancient Egyptians as "savages" who kill and hang Jews, arguing that hanging did not exist in ancient Egypt. It said the film also presents a "racist" depiction of Jews

as people who mounted an armed rebellion. The ministry said religious scriptures present Jews as weak and oppressed.

The statement also objected to the depiction of God as a child, which also drew criticism in the West.

The ministry said it had convened two committees — one of censors and one of archaeologists — to review the film. The committee of archeologists agreed with the decision to ban the film because it showed "a false and wrong mental image of Egypt's history," the ministry said.

Artistic works dealing with

religion are often banned in the Muslim world because religious scholars argue that the depiction of prophets is unacceptable. Such works are also often at odds with the Islamic portrayal of biblical prophets, which itself often diverges from their portrayal in Judaism and Christianity. According to Islam, for example, Jesus was not crucified, and the prophet Abraham was ordered to sacrifice Ishmael, not Isaac.

"Noah," another Hollywood biblical epic, was banned in Egypt and much of the Muslim world

due to its depiction of prophets and fears it would offend viewers. Perceived insults to Islam have in the past sparked protests and deadly violence. Muslim countries have also censored movies over graphic sex scenes and portrayals of homosexuality. The United Arab Emirates also decided to ban "Exodus: Gods & Kings." Juma al-Leem, of the National Media Council, told The Associated Press the movie contained historical and religious errors that are not in Islam or in the Bible. "We respect all religions, not just Islam," al-Leem said. □



In this Dec. 3, 2014 file photo, actor Chris Rock attends the premiere of "Top Five" at the Ziegfeld Theatre in New York. Associated Press

Chris Rock and wife Malaak Compton-Rock headed for divorce

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Comedian Chris Rock filed for divorce from his wife Malaak Compton-Rock, a statement from his representative confirmed Sunday.

The statement went on to specify that Rock and his family request privacy as they go through this process because it is a personal matter.

Rock and philanthropist Malaak Compton-Rock had been married for 19 years and have two daughters, Lola Simone, 12, and Zahra Savannah, 10. □

Alicia Keys welcomes second child

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Alicia Keys gave birth to son Genesis Ali Dean early Saturday morning. It's baby number two for the Grammy-winner and husband, producer-rapper Swizz Beatz, who are also parents to 4-year-old Egypt Daoud.

The 33-year-old singer shared the news on her Instagram account, Sunday, with a photo of Genesis's footprints. The image also details that the baby was born at 1:52 a.m. and weighs 6 pounds, 5 ounces (2.86 kilograms). Keys expressed excitement in her social media captions, saying that "the joy of joy is joy" and that she is grateful. □



Actor Timothy Spall arrives for the London Film Festival premiere of *Mr. Turner* at the Odeon West End in central London, Friday, Oct. 10, 2014. Associated Press

How do you play a master painter? First: Learn to paint

JOCELYN NOVECK
AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Talk about suffering for your art. Achieving his acclaimed performance as the masterful British landscape painter J.M.W. Turner in "Mr. Turner" took so much out of Timothy Spall, the veteran actor found himself kneeling down at the artist's tomb in St. Paul's Cathedral when it was all over — and crying.

"I just knelt down, had a bit of a weep, and wiped it off on my elbow," the 57-year-old actor says. "It was quite a journey, you know."

A journey indeed. Working with the famously exacting director Mike Leigh, as he has a number of times, Spall was tasked with what he calls detective work, delving deep into Turner's art to ferret out Turner the man. The artist died in 1851 — "pre-psychanalysis," Spall notes. "And he never really explained himself. He didn't want anybody to really know what he was up to."

This meant that Spall, aside from reading everything he could get his hands on, had to learn to paint himself.

"Mike said, 'Are you up for it? And I said, 'All right, if this is what it's gonna take,'" Spall recalls. "And we just went and looked at these paintings, and I kept

saying, 'What IS that?' And I realized my job was to look at this massive explosion of genius and implode it all back in, right back to where it started."

So Spall studied — still life, real life, drawing in all its forms, even Greek and Roman architecture. "I even started reading about Goethe's theory of light," he says.

Often, films about famous artists have portrayed them as rarified geniuses. "Mr. Turner" is different — the movie, which has earned raves for both Leigh and Spall, depicts an unassuming son of a barber who simply worked and worked, all the time. Indeed, Turner produced a staggering 20,000 works on paper, and more than 300 oil paintings. "How did he do that? Well, he just never stopped," Leigh says. "He was just at it all the time. I mean it's a phenomenal amount of stuff. This is a guy who just does it, and what he does is extraordinary. And HOW he does it remains a mystery."

The film was somewhat of a departure for Leigh, one of Britain's most admired directors, who is known mostly for gritty contemporary films about working-class characters. But he says that once he made the 1999 "Topsy-Turvy" about Gilbert and Sullivan, he realized

he was "over the idea that I was only ever going to make contemporary films."

"I started to look into Turner having known the paintings," the director says, "and once I started to investigate Turner the character, I thought, this world is absolutely meant to be dramatized." Turner was a man, for example, who had himself tied to the mast of a ship during a huge storm, in order to better understand the force of nature at sea — a scene recreated in "Mr. Turner."

Spall and Leigh formulated the character over two years of study, and six months of rehearsal. Oh, and three trips by Spall to Turner's grave.

"First, when Mike asked me (to do the film), I went down there and pretended to tie my shoes, knelt by his grave and just had a quick word. I said, 'Look, for what I'm about to do, please forgive me! And help me if you can.'"

A second trip came halfway through filming. "I went back and said, 'Look, I don't know if this is going the way you'd like!' Again pretending to tie my shoes."

The third trip came when he'd finished the film. This was when he wept. "This time I didn't even bother to pretend to tie my shoes," he says. □

IWC. ENGINEERED FOR MEN.



Portuguese Perpetual Calendar.

Ref. 5023: One thing at IWC always remains the same: the desire to get even better. Here is one of the finest examples, with the largest automatic movement manufactured by IWC, Pellaton winding and a seven-day power reserve. The perpetual calendar shows the date and moon phase, and the year – until 2499 – is

shown in four digits. In short: a watch that has already written the future.

IWC. ENGINEERED FOR MEN.

Mechanical IWC-manufactured movement, Pellaton automatic winding system, 7-day power reserve with display, Perpetual calendar, Perpetual moon phase display, Antireflective sapphire glass, Sapphire-glass back cover, Water-resistant 3 bar, 18 ct red gold

Shiva's
GOLD & GEMS

L.G. Smith Blvd. #94, Royal Plaza Mall, Oranjestad, Aruba
L.G. Smith Blvd. #95, Palm Beach Plaza Mall, Palm Beach, Aruba
Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791
E-mail: shivasaruba@setarnet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com

IWC
SCHAFFHAUSEN



TO BREAK THE RULES,
YOU MUST FIRST MASTER
THEM.

AUDEMARS PIGUET
Le Brassus

Shiva's
GOLD & GEMS

Royal Plazaq Mall, Oranjestad, Aruba
Palm Beach Plaza Mall, Palm Beach, Aruba
Tel: (297) 583-4077 • Fax: (297) 582-6791
E-mail: shivasaruba@setarnet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com

AUDEMARSPIGUET.COM